THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For JANUARY 1795.

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METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

To the Editor of the Scots Magazine,

Sir,

IT is ſuppoſed by many, that the ſeaſons move on in a cycle; but various opinions are held of its period, ſome making it 100, ſome 50, others 20 years. I am humbly of opinion, that we are not as yet poſſeſſed of *data* ſufficient for determining that point; the accounts that had formerly been kept, or the notices taken, of the variations of the weather, were but vague and inaccurate. Of late a conſiderable degree of attention has been paid to this matter, and very full and accurate meteorological diaries are kept, in different parts of the world: As I make this a part of my relaxation from buſineſs, I take the liberty of ſending you a meteorological hiſtory of the year 1782, a year more remarkable than any that have run ſince, and as much ſo as any that preceded it in the memory of the preſent generation. A compariſon of ſuch accounts, for a period of years, may certainly enable us to judge of, and perhaps to predict, the changes that are to take place. Till we have ſuch, prognoſtications are but random conjectures.—It may be neceſſary to add, and that the obſervations were made at Edinburgh and in its neighbourhood. I am &c. L.

Meteorological Hiſtory of the year 1782.

'The year 1781, through this country, was in general very moderate and agreeable; and though we had the eaſterly winds dominant during the months of April, May, and June, yet they were not accompanied with ſo much cold as is uſual with ſuch winds. The dog-day heats were great, and the wheat harveſt began about the middle of July; and the harveſt in general was an early and good one.

The year 1782, however, was totally the reverſe. In the months of January and February, particularly the latter, we had almoſt a continued froſt and ſnow; with the wind moſtly at N. E.

March was, in general, ſomewhat milder, though by no means mild for the ſeaſon. We had a great deal of froſt and ſnow, and prodigious falls of rain, by which the rivers were ſwelled beyond their uſual bounds. In particular, upon the 11th and 12th, the Clyde roſe higher, than was ever known. It exceeded the higheſt of a very remarkable flood in 1712 by more than a perpendicular foot; and ſwept off many mills, &c. The prevailing winds, during this month, were the North and Eaſt winds.

On the ſecond of April ſnow fell all day on the hills around this city, though it fell in rain and ſleet in the town; the wind at N. W.

On the 3d we had alſo a great fall of ſnow; and though it melted in the ſtreets, and in the neighbourhood of the city, as it fell, yet it lay deep on the neighbouring hills. Wind at W. S. W.

On the 10th ſnow all day, and lying unmelted on Arthur ſeat &c. wind N.

On the 14th all the country, low as well as high grounds, covered with ſnow; and ſleet all day, with a north wind. And, to the end of the month, though the weather was ſomewhat more moderate, the ſnow lay unmelted on the hills; and great coats were worn as in the midſt of winter: nor, excepting in gardens, was there the ſmalleſt appearance of vegetation.

Upon the 28th I, for the firſt time, ſaw Swallows on Dudingſton Loch, to the number of two or three dozen, ſkimming along the ſurface of the water; and, as I could perceive them no where elſe, this circumſtance led me to look more favourably upon the German accounts of the ſubmerſion of ſwallows, though it is by no means a proof of the fact. The prevailing winds during this month were the N. and E.

(*To be Continued.*)

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ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THE LATE PRINCIPAL ROBERTSON.

WITH AN ELEGANT PORTRAIT.

DR WILLIAM ROBERTSON, one of the moſt celebrated hiſtorians of his age, was one of thoſe great characters whoſe private life, flowing in an even and unvaried ſtream, can afford no important information to the biographer, although his writings will be read, to the lateſt poſterity, with undiminiſhed pleaſure. He was born at the manſe of Borthwick in the year 1721. His father was, at the time of his death, one of the miniſters of the New Grey Friars Church, which the Doctor came afterwards to ſupply. In 1743 he was licenſed preacher, and placed in the pariſh of Gladſmuir in 1744; whence, in 1758, he was tranſlated to Lady Yeſter's pariſh in Edinburgh. In 1761, on the death of Principal Goldie, he was elected Principal of the univerſity of Edinburgh, and appointed one of the miniſters of the old Greyfriars church. About this period, he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and was appointed Hiſtoriographer to his Majeſty for Scotland, and one of his Majeſty's Chaplains for that kingdom.

We find it not eaſy to aſcertain at what period were firſt unfolded the great and ſingular talents of a philoſopher, deſtined to be one of the firſt writers that reſcued this iſland from the reproach of not having any good hiſtorians. We are, however, aſſured, that before the publication of any of his literary performances, even from his firſt appearance in public life, his abilities had begun to attract the notice of obſerving men; and to his more intimate friends he diſcovered marks of ſuch high-minded ambition, as, ſeconded by thoſe abilities, could not have failed to have carried him to the firſt honours of his profeſſion, in whatever ſphere he had been placed, and whatever oppoſition he had to combat.

The firſt theatre that offered for the diſplay of his talents, was the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland. It is the annual meetings of this court that produce to view, men who would otherwiſe have remained in the deepeſt obſcurity. There the humble paſtor, whoſe lot has been caſt in the remoteſt corner of the Highland wilds, feels himſelf, for a time, on a footing of equality with the firſt citizen in the kingdom; he can there diſpute with him the prize of eloquence, the moſt flattering diſtinction to a liberal mind; a diſtinction which is naturally ſought after with the greater eagerneſs in that Aſſembly, as the ſimple and apoſtolical eſtabliſhment of the church of Scotland, has rendered it the only pre-eminence to which the greateſt part of its members can ever hope to attain.

From the moment Dr Robertſon firſt appeared in this Aſſembly, he became the object of univerſal attention and applauſe. His ſpeeches were marked with the ſame manly and perſuaſive eloquence that diſtinguiſhes his hiſtorical compoſitions; and it was obſerved by all, that, while his young rivals in oratory contented themſelves with opening a cauſe, or delivering a ſtudied harangue, he ſhewed equal ability to ſtart objections, to anſwer, or to reply; and that even his moſt unpremeditated effuſions were not unadorned with thoſe harmonious,

and ſeemingly meaſured periods, which have been ſo much admired in his works of labour and reflection. He ſoon came to be conſidered as the ableſt ſupporter of the cauſe he choſe to eſpouſe, and was now the unrivalled leader of one of the great parties which have long divided the church of which he was a member.

When we reflect upon this circumſtance, and conſider how much mankind are the ſame in every ſociety, we ſhall be the leſs ſurpriſed to find, in the literary works of Dr Robertſon, an acquaintance with the human heart, and a knowledge of the world, which we look for in vain in other hiſtorians. The man who has ſpent his life in the difficult taſk of conducting the deliberations of a popular aſſembly, in regulating the paſſions, the intereſts, the prejudices of a numerous faction, has advantages over the pedant, or mere man of letters, which, by no ability, no ſtudy, no ſecond-hand information, can ever be compenſated.

The firſt work which extended the Doctor's reputation beyond the walls of the General Aſſembly, was a Sermon preached at Edinburgh, before the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and afterwards publiſhed; the ſubject of which was 'The State of the world at the appearance of Jeſus Chriſt.' The ingenuity with which a number of detached circumſtances are there collected, and ſhown to tend to one ſingle point, may perhaps rival the art which is ſo much admired in the Biſhop of Meaux's celebrated Univerſal Hiſtory.

This ſermon did great honour to the author; and it is probably to the reputation he gained by it, that we ought to attribute the unanimity with which he was called to be one of the miniſter's of Edinburgh, an event which happened not long after, viz. in the year 1758. In 1759, he publiſhed, in two volumes quarto, 'The Hiſtory of Scotland, during the reigns of Queen Mary and of King James VI. till his Acceſſion to the Crown of England, with a Review of the Scotch Hiſtory previous to that period.' This work is one of the moſt complete of all modern hiſtories. It is not a dry jejune narrative of events, deſtitute of ornament; nor is it a mere frothy relation, all glow and colouring. The hiſtorian diſcovers a ſufficient ſtore of imagination to engage the reader's attention, with a due proportion of judgment to check the exuberance of fancy. His deſcriptions are animated, and his reflections ſolid. His ſtyle is copious, nervous, and correct. He has diſplayed conſummate ſkill in rendering ſuch paſſages of our hiſtory, as are familiar to our recollection, agreeable and entertaining. He has embelliſhed old materials with all the elegance of modern dreſs. He has very judiciouſly avoided too circumſtantial a detail of trite facts. His narratives are ſuccinct and ſpirited; his reflections copious, frequent, and pertinent.—In a word, by this hiſtory (which has ſince been frequently re-printed in octavo) Dr Robertſon acquired a reputation, which all the efforts of contemporary rivals were unable to diminiſh.

In 1769, Dr Robertſon publiſhed, in three volumes quarto, 'The Hiſtory of the Reign of the Emperor Charles V. with a View of the Progreſs of Society in Europe, from the Subverſion of the Roman Empire to the Beginning of the ſixteenth century.'—The vaſt and general importance of the period which this Hiſtory compriſes, together with the reputation which our hiſtorian had deſervedly acquired, co-operated to raiſe ſuch high expectations in the public, that no work, perhaps, was ever more impatiently wiſhed for, or peruſed with greater avidity. The firſt volume, which is a preliminary one (containing the progreſs of ſociety in Europe, as mentioned in the title) is a very valuable part of the work; for it ſerves not only as a key to the pages that follow, but may be conſidered as a general introduction to the ſtudy of hiſtory, in that period in which the ſeveral powers of Europe were formed into one great political ſyſtem, in which each took a ſtation, wherein it has ſince remained (till within a very few years at leaſt) with leſs alterations than could have been expected, after the ſhocks occaſioned by ſo many internal revolutions, and ſo many foreign wars. Of the hiſtory itſelf, it may be ſufficient to obſerve, that it is juſtly ranked among the

the capital pieces of hiſtorical excellence. There is an elegance of expreſſion, a depth of diſcernment, and a correctneſs of judgment, which do honour to the hiſtorian. The characters are inimitably penned. They are not contraſted by a ſtudied antitheſis, but by an oppoſition which reſults from a very acute and penetrating inſight into the real merits of each character, fairly deduced from the ſeveral circumſtances of his conduct exemplified in the hiſtory. For this work the Doctor got 4,500l. Sterling.

In 1779, Dr Robertſon publiſhed, 'The Hiſtory of America,' in two volumes quarto. This celebrated work may be conſidered with great propriety, as a ſequel to the preceding hiſtory. From the cloſe of the fifteenth century, we date the moſt ſplendid era in the annals of modern times. Diſcoveries were then made, the influence of which deſcended to poſterity; and events happened that gave a new direction to the ſpirit of nations. At that period, as before obſerved, the powers of Europe aſſumed their political exiſtence; arranged themſelves in ſtations which (perhaps, with a memorable exception only) they ſtill continue to hold; and adopted the maxims of conduct by which their councils are ſtill governed. Internal improvements kept pace with external advantages; and, riſing from the ruins of antiquity, literature and the arts began to appear. The invention of printing forwarded the revival of letters, by facilitating the ſtudy of the ancients. The reformation in religion ſet on foot a ſpirit of enquiry, which, extending itſelf to every thing, laid the foundation of future ſcience. From the ſlumber of ages the human genius at laſt awoke, and, after a pauſe of many centuries, men began to think. To crown this ſplendid period, a hardy and adventurous ſailor wrought a new ſcene of wonders. Conducted by the enthuſiaſm of genius, and aſſiſted by the light of philoſophy, Columbus made the boldeſt of human efforts; and, venturing where man had never ventured, upon the unknown interminable ocean, he extended the boundaries of knowledge, diſcovered another hemiſphere, and added, as it were, a new continent to the globe.

To the inhabitants of Europe, America was, in every reſpect, a new world. There the face of the earth changed its appearance. The plants, and trees, and animals, were ſtrange; and nature ſeemed no longer the ſame. A continent opened that appeared to have recently come from the hands of the Creator, and which ſhewed lakes, rivers, and mountains on a grander ſcale, and the vegetable kingdom in greater magnificence, than in the other quarters of the globe; but the animal tribes in a ſtate of degradation, few in number, degenerated in kind, imperfect, and unfiniſhed. The human ſpecies in the earlieſt ſtage of its progreſs, vaſt and numerous nations, in the rudeſt form of the ſavage ſtate which philoſophers have contemplated; and two great empires in the loweſt degree of civilization which any records have tranſmitted to our review, preſented to the philoſophic eye, at this period, the moſt fruitful ſubject of ſpeculation that was to be found in the annals of hiſtory.

The diſcovery of the new world, moreover, was not only a curious ſpectacle to the philoſopher, but, by the change which it effected, an intereſting ſpectacle to the human race. When Columbus ſet ſail for unknown lands, he little expected that he was to make a revolution in the ſyſtem of human affairs, and to form the deſtiny of Europe for ages to come. The importance and celebrity, therefore, of the ſubject, had attracted the attention of philoſophers and hiſtorians. Views and ſketches of the new world had been given by able writers; and ſplendid portions of the American ſtory had been adorned with all the beauties of eloquence. But, prior to the appearance of Dr Robertſon's hiſtory, no author had beſtowed the mature and profound inveſtigation which ſuch a ſubject required, or had finiſhed, upon a regular plan, that complete narration and perfect whole, which it is the province of the hiſtorian to tranſmit to poſterity. And as the ſubject upon which our author entered was grand, his execution was maſterly. The character of his former works was immediately diſcerned in it. They had been read with uncommon admiration. When the Hiſtory of Scot-

land was firſt publiſhed, and the author altogether unknown, Lord Cheſterfield pronounced it to be equal in eloquence and beauty to the productions of Livy, the pureſt and moſt claſſical of all the Roman hiſtorians. His literary reputation was not confined to his own country: the teſtimony of Europe was ſoon added to the voice of Britain. It may be mentioned, indeed, as the characteriſtic quality of our author's manner, that he poſſeſſed, in no common degree, that ſupported elevation which is ſuitable to compoſitions of the higher claſs; and, in this Hiſtory of America, he diſplayed that happy union of ſtrength and grace, which becomes the majeſty of the hiſtoric muſe. In the fourth book of his firſt volume, which contains a deſcription of America when firſt diſcovered, and a philoſophical enquiry into the manners and policy of its ancient inhabitants, he diſplays, moreover, ſo much patient inveſtigation and ſound philoſophy; abounds in ſuch beautiful or intereſting deſcription; and exhibits ſuch variety and copiouſneſs of elegant writing, that future times will probably refer to it as that part of his works which gives the beſt idea of his genius, and is the moſt finiſhed of all his productions.

In 1787, appeared a tranſlation of the Abbé Clavigero's Hiſtory of Mexico; in which work the author threw out various reflections, tending, in ſeveral inſtances, to impeach the credit of Dr Robertſon's Hiſtory of America. This attack induced our learned hiſtorian to reviſe his work, and to enquire into the truth of the charges brought againſt it by the hiſtorian of New Spain; and this he appears to have done with a becoming attention to the importance of the facts that are controverted, and to the common intereſts of truth. The reſult he publiſhed, in 1788, under the title of 'Additions and Corrections to the former Editions of Dr Robertſon's Hiſtory of America.'—In many of the diſputed paſſages, he fully anſwered the Abbé Clavigero, and vindicated himſelf: in others, he candidly ſubmitted to correction, and thus gave additional value to his own work.

The literary labours of Dr Robertſon appear to have been terminated in 1791, by the publication of 'An Hiſtorical Diſquiſition concerning the Knowledge which the Ancients had of India, and the Progreſs of Trade with that Country prior to the Diſcovery of the Paſſage to it by the Cape of Good Hope; with an Appendix, containing Obſervations on the Civil Polity, the Laws and Judicial Proceedings, the Arts, the Sciences, and Religious Inſtitutions of the Indians.'—The peruſal of Major Rennell's Memoir, for illuſtrating his map of Hindooſtan, ſuggeſted to Dr Robertſon the deſign of examining, more fully than he had done in his Hiſtory of America, into the knowledge which the Ancients had of India, and of conſidering what is certain, what is obſcure, and what is fabulous, in their accounts of that remote country. Of his various performances, this is not that of which the deſign is the moſt extenſive, or the execution the moſt elaborate; but in this Hiſtorical Diſquiſition we perceive the ſame patient aſſiduity in collecting his materials, the ſame diſcernment in arranging them, the ſame perſpicuity of narrative, and the ſame power of illuſtration, which ſo eminently diſtinguiſh his other writings, and which have long rendered them the delight of the Engliſh reader at home, and an honour to Engliſh literature abroad.

Dr Robertſon cloſed a truly uſeful life, on the 11th of June 1793, at Grange Houſe, near Edinburgh, after a lingering illneſs, which he endured with exemplary fortitude and reſignation. It may be truly obſerved of him, that no man lived more reſpected, or died more ſincerely lamented. Indefatigable in his literary reſearches, and poſſeſſing from nature a ſound and vigorous underſtanding, he acquired a ſtore of uſeful knowledge, which afforded ample ſcope for the exertion of his extraordinary abilities, and raiſed him to the moſt diſtinguiſhed eminence in the republic of letters. As a miniſter of the goſpel, he was a faithful paſtor, and juſtly merited the eſteem and veneration of his flock. In a word, he may be pronounced to be one of the moſt

perfect

perfect characters of the age; and his name will be a laſting honour to the iſland that gave him birth. His converſation was cheerful, entertaining, and inſtructive; his manners affable, pleaſing, and endearing.

Dr Robertſon left three ſons and two daughters. The eldeſt ſon is Procurator for the Church of Scotland, and an Advocate. The ſecond ſon, a Captain in the army, diſtinguiſhed himſelf under Lord Cornwallis, in ſuch a manner, as to command the warmeſt praiſe from that illuſtrious General. The third ſon is likewiſe an officer in the army. Of the daughters, one was married to the late John Ruſſell, Eſq; writer to the ſignet; the other, to Patrick Brydone, Eſq; F. R. S. Author of the Tour to Sicily and Malta.

Z.

ON SOME OF THE FAVOURITE SPECTACLES AND DIVERSIONS OF THE ENGLISH.

Tranſlation of a Letter, ſuppoſed to be written by the late PRINCE LEE BOO, *and intended to have been ſent to his* FATHER, *the King of the Pelew Iſlands.*

WHAT I have ſaid to you, beloved ſire, on the politics of this people, has been ſhort and ſuperficial; becauſe you have taught me to ſpeak with diffidence and reſerve on matters of this high nature; and becauſe the laws, by which this country is governed, are too numerous and profound to be haſtily learned. Their cuſtoms and manners alſo require a longer reſidence than I have yet made among them, to be clearly comprehended, and fairly judged. Our prejudices do not ſuffer us to reflect, that theſe ought always to be conſidered with a reference to the climate, wants, and civil condition of the country. As experience ripens my judgement, expect from me better remarks on all theſe particulars: at preſent, accept, with your uſual indulgence ſuch obſervations as have occurred to me; they will at leaſt ſerve to mark the ſtages of my improvement, as you compare thoſe of different dates together.

I ſhall firſt of all preſent you with a ſketch of their amuſements, in which you told me, in our laſt converſation, before I mounted into the large floating-caſtle, I ſhould ſee a vaſt deal of the temper and natural character of the people I was about to viſit. You will ſcarcely credit it, but I aſſure you, I make continual miſtakes between their amuſements and their buſineſs; and ſometimes imagine they are purſuing ſome ſport, when, in reality, they are occupied about objects of a ſerious and ſolemn nature: for, notwithſtanding this people are capable of ſuch ſtupendous efforts of art and ſcience, they have a way of mixing a littleneſs of character with their grandeur of ſpirit, qualities that are held incompatible with us; and thus is produced a ſort of farcical and ridiculous diſproportion. This equivocal appearance of many of their proceedings will, doubtleſs, fill my letters with numerous errors; but I ſhall take care to rectify them as I advance in my acquaintance with the ſubject, ſo as in the end to communicate ſome advantage to yourſelf, and conſequently to my dear country, from theſe opportunities which I owe to your indulgence.

To begin, then, you muſt know that the other day I was carried to a very large room, in which they told me was aſſembled the great council of the nation: but I preſently ſaw through it, and perceived clearly that it was a kind of game, in imitation of a ſenate; and, indeed, it was performed ſo well, that had it not been for a great deal of laughing, coughing, ſcraping, and hallooing, it might have been impoſed upon me for a real aſſembly of the great men of the nation, met to debate on its moſt important intereſts; for here and there, there was a vaſt deal of animation aſſumed, and eloquence diſplayed, and even moments of gravity, ſuch as characterize all our meetings for the good of our country. My ignorance of the language diſqualified me from participating in the joke; but from the eagerneſs and perſeverance with which it was purſued, I could plainly perceive that it was very entertaining to thoſe engaged.

The following night I was taken to an exhibition, called a maſquerade, which

I only mention here as a contraſt to the humorous ſcene I was preſent at the day before, ſince it ſeems to be more properly a ceremony than an amuſement; I mention it, too, as one inſtance, among a very few, in which this generous people have uſed a reſerve toward me in reſpect of the explanation of their manners and cuſtoms; for they fain would have perſuaded me, that this maſquerade, as it is called, was a mere diverſion among the young men and women of quality, while nothing could be more clear, than that it was a religious celebration. I can conceive it ſo natural to laugh at the practices of other countries, eſpecially thoſe which appertain to their religion, that I muſt own, I think them entirely excuſable for veiling thoſe rites and myſteries, for the preſent, from my eyes, until I ſhall have worn off my firſt prejudices. There was ſomething ſplendidly ſolemn in this whole ceremony; and and if there was any interruption to the gravity of the ſcene, it was occaſioned by ſome ſtrange cries and whimſical contortions, which, however ridiculous they appear to the inhabitants of other countries, I have no doubt, make a very ſerious impreſſion on the boſoms of the natives, as being in honour of the different deities they adore. There was a vaſt variety of dreſſes, which I conceived to be repreſentative of particular orders and deſcriptions, who then, through the medium of one of theſe fraternity, offered their reſpective adorations; while the prieſts wore all the ſame cloathing, called by the natives, a domino. I ſay I conceived all this, becauſe a certain awe and timidity with which I felt myſelf inſpired, made me forbear any queſtion that might ſeem to reſult from impertinent curioſity.

There is one circumſtance reſpecting this country, which, to my ideas, is altogether unaccountable; and that is, the great leiſure they have for idleneſs, in the midſt of ſuch proofs of their labour and ingenuity as overpower the imagination. It ſurpriſes me the more, my beloved father, becauſe you know I have been accuſtomed to ſee every individual uſefully employed in my own country; it being one of your favourite maxims, that the happineſs of your people requires it. Thou, who art a mighty prince, art likewiſe the beſt workman in thy dominions; for who can make hatchets to equal thine? But here the great men can bear to ſit whole days unemployed, and will eat their food with inſtruments which other hands have formed, and live in houſes with the very principle of whoſe conſtruction they are little acquainted. From all this muſt reſult a vaſt deal of idle time to be filled up with mere amuſements; and it is aſtoniſhing how many theſe people have imagined, of which we have no conception. They are extremely fond of dancing; a paſtime which implies much leſs exertion with them than with us, and conſiſts chiefly in eating, drinking, and wearing fine ornaments. They extend this accompliſhment even to the brute creation; for I obſerve, that their dogs are taught to dance in the ſtreets of the capital: ſo much leiſure time have Engliſhmen to beſtow upon theſe diverſions.

Their hunting is of various kinds; but the principal object of it is a poor little timid animal they call a hare: I have not yet ſeen it, but I ſhall hope to be enabled to ſend you a deſcription of it, together with an account of the birds and beaſts of the country. I cannot, however, forbear mentioning one remarkable property aſcribed to it, that of loving to be hunted, although its entertainment conſiſts ſolely in being torn to pieces by dogs; I was aſſured, however, of this by a perſon who is very fond of the chace. Another ſpecies of hunting, in which apparently they take great delight, is that of a huge animal called in their language *ox*; and this takes place often in the ſtreets of the city, to the great terror of all who do not mix in the ſport. There are no dogs uſed in this kind of hunting; at leaſt I could perceive none: indeed I was hurried away, by my kind protectors, ſo quick when the beaſt approached, that I could ſee but little of their mode of proceeding; though I beheld enough to make me wonder at ſuch a predilection in a people, who are, in a thouſand reſpects, ſo civiliſed and ſo humane.

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In my future account of the beaſts of this country, I ſhall ſay a great deal to you, by and by, about a beautiful animal called the horſe, which will, with great eaſe and celerity, bear a man from place to place upon his back. They make this animal conducive to their ſport in an amuſement they term *racing*, in which two or more of them are made to run one againſt the other, with men on their backs, and wounded all the way with ſharp ſpikes. I cannot help wondering how good men can be pleaſed with ſuch ſights; for it ſeems an unnatural and ungenerous conteſt, when two animals are urged beyond their ſtrength, and forced on by violent treatment. I am ſorry to find fault with a people to whom we have all, and myſelf particularly, been ſo greatly obliged; ſo that I am drawn oppoſite ways by truth and gratitude: but then again I conſider that nothing is ſo ſacred as truth; and that, after all, my greateſt gratitude is due to my father and my king, who requires that I ſhould always tell him the truth.

The other day I obſerved two men in a field, ſtripped as naked as it is the cuſtom with us, and beating one another till they were covered with blood, for the diverſion of an infinite number of ſpectators, who ſeemed to be delighted with the ſcene. Though our enemies taken in war have often been ſlaughtered before my eyes, yet I could ſo ill bear to ſee this fury between countrymen, and, as I was told, between men who had never quarrelled, and all to amuſe their fellow-creatures, that I turned away my eyes, and was ſorrowful all the reſt of the day. It added a good deal to my chagrin, to obſerve, in my way home, two dogs very furiouſly engaged; and, while they were miſerably tearing one another to pieces, a vaſt number of people gathering round them, and provoking their fury by clapping their hands, and a thouſand ſavage geſticulations.

They have alſo another ſport here, of a-piece with ſome which I have already mentioned, termed by the natives cock-fighting; though I am told that this amuſement is a little on the decline. The entertainment conſiſts in contemplating a very fierce combat between two large birds of great beauty, and ſingular uſe to mankind, which they arm with inſtruments that enable them to inflict dreadful wounds on each other, till one of them expires in conſiderable torture. I am ſorry to add, that I have ſeen ſome poltroons amuſe themſelves with throwing ſticks at this noble bird, which, for that purpoſe, they had confined by the leg. Their diverſions within doors are in ſuch great variety, that it would rob more important objects of all my time, if I were to think of deſcribing them to you; beſide which, I have only glanced at the greater part of them: for, my dear friend, here I am more profitably employed when I am improving myſelf in the language, or am acquiring knowledge, which may turn to the future benefit of your majeſty's people.

Their principal amuſement, in their own houſes, appears to be derived from a certain number of thin ſubſtances, ſpotted in a certain manner with different colours, and which, though they allow that they gain no ideas from them, will entertain them during the time that your majeſty would take to repel an invaſion of your dominions. I am prejudiced againſt this amuſement; becauſe I have obſerved it operate very unpleaſantly on the countenances of thoſe who are engaged in it; and I have ſeen ſome very handſome perſons, while playing at cards, entirely ſtripped of what rendered them before ſo amiable in my eyes. They have not yet made me comprehend how it can be; but they tell it to me as an undoubted truth, that ſometimes men loſe every thing that is valuable to them in this amuſement, if it deſerve that name, after we are told of this its deſtructive tendency; ſo that be aſſured, beloved father, I will not attempt to acquire ſo pernicious a talent. But the paſtime of which this great people ſeems moſt enamoured, is what their language denominates a *play*. I have not yet been preſent at one, ſo that I cannot pretend to give you any account of it; but as far as I can underſtand ſuch deſcriptions as have been given me of it, it is a powerful engine, whether it be uſed on the

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ſide of vice or virtue. I will ſend you a full account of the firſt which I ſhall be permitted to attend; but I fear that the ſilence obſerved about this amuſement, by my deareſt friends, is on the account of the neglect into which this its moral efficacy may have ſunk in the preſent times.

The other day I was preſent at a diverſion, which at firſt wore a formidable appearance, but ſoon turned out to be a very inſignificant ſpectacle.—A number of perſons, armed with weapons, which they call bows and arrows, and which ſerve to the ſame purpoſe pretty nearly as our ſlings and ſpears, met together on a ſpacious plain. The profeſſed object of their meeting is to ſend their arrows into a painted piece of wood, which they denominate a target; but not more than a ſmall number of thoſe that came with that pretence, partook at all in the diverſion; ſo that, to make a diſplay before a great number of the women of the country, of their perſons and decorations, looks to be, with the major part, the real object which aſſembles them. I could not eaſily be convinced, that all this noiſe and parade was to anſwer no political end; at one time it occurred to me, that it was a ſort of divination, by which heaven was conſulted in the appointment to certain poſts of eminence, and that the generals of armies, and captains of expeditions, were choſen in this kind of lottery; at another, that ſome ſecret terrors of an invaſion had begun to ſpread in the country, and that this martial exerciſe was meant as preparative to a vigorous defence. I was at length, however, perſuaded, that they were a very peaceable ſet of people, and that all this uproar proceeded only from an outrageous love of flouriſh and ſhow, and, in fact, was nothing more than an apology for a feather in their hats. I was a little afraid at firſt of coming near them; but, upon trial, I found them ſo familiarly and tamely diſpoſed, that one of them ſuffered me to take his hat off his head, and ſtrutted to and fro, apparently in high good humour, while I admired his feather. There is always a great gathering from all parts to ſee this ſpectacle; and the ladies, for whoſe amuſement the whole is deſigned, appear extravagantly pleaſed with beholding their huſbands and relatives ſo cheaply metamorphoſed into champions and warriors. The inoffenſiveneſs, however, and the pampered good humour which appeared in their countenances, does not ſuffer one long to couple with them the idea of any thing that is terrible; and I much queſtion, ſuppoſing theſe men had been caſt on your majeſty's dominions, inſtead of thoſe to whom we are ſo much indebted, whether you would have found their aſſiſtance ſo ſerviceable in your battles.

From the Looker-on.

SENTIMENTAL SKETCH.

IT was a damp and dark evening, in November—the wind blew cold, and the rain ſprinkled apace. I was haſtening through Great Ruſſel Street, to ſpend an evening with ſome friends in Bedford Square, when the ſobs of a boy, ſitting by the ſide of a decent young woman, on the ſteps of a door, caught my ear, and in a moment arreſted my feet. 'What,' ſaid I, 'is the matter?'—'O Sir,' replied the lad, ſobbing more violently than before, 'my father will kill me!'—'What have you done, then, my good fellow?'—'Nothing at all, Sir,' ſaid the boy, as well as he could ſpeak for crying. He muſt then, thought I be a cruel father: but this I did not feel neceſſary to ſay to his ſon. 'Who is this young woman?'—'O, Sir! ſhe is my ſiſter.'—'And what is the matter with her?—'She is ruined! ſhe is ruined!' cried the boy. 'Poor girl!' thought I, 'well mayeſt thou huſband thy tears; for thy grief is likely to be laſting.' She ſat in a ſtate of ſilent ſorrow; her hand ſupporting her chin, and her eyes looking up to Heaven for the aid ſhe ſeemed to deſpair of finding on earth. 'For God's ſake!' ſaid I, taking her gently by the other hand, which ſhe modeſtly withdrew from mine, 'tell me, my good girl, is there no way of yet ſaving you from utter deſtruction?'—'None, Sir, none!' ſighed ſhe, giving her

her head the motion of deſpair, and wiping the tears that now flowed involuntarily from her eyes. 'My dear,' ſaid I, 'be comforted. I am, myſelf, a father, and will endeavour to reconcile you to your's. Though you have loſt that irretrievable jewel, your virgin innocence———.' 'God forbid, Sir!' ſighed the young woman, with all the firmneſs of conſcious purity. 'What, then, did you mean,' cried I, turning to the boy, 'by ſaying that your ſiſter was ruined?'—'So ſhe is, Sir,' retorted the boy, ſtill ſobbing: 'for ſhe has loſt all her clothes, and can't go to her place.'—'And is this all!' ſaid I: 'how did ſhe loſe them?'—'Why, Sir, as I was juſt now carrying her box to her new place, two men came behind me; and, ſnatching it off my head, ran away with it down Dyot Street. We cried out, 'Stop thief!' But one of them came back with a large knife, and threatened to ſtab my poor ſiſter if we ſaid another word; ſo I was obliged to hold my tongue, and ſhe fainted away.'—'And why do you think your father will be angry with you?'—'Becauſe he is a poor man, and can't afford to buy my ſiſter any new clothes; ſo that ſhe muſt ſtay at home on his hands: Beſides, my mother begged him to come with us; but he would go to the public-houſe, and ſaid I was big enough. So I know very well he'll kill me; for he is very paſſionate, eſpecially when he's in the wrong.' That, thought I, is natural enough, with us all. 'What, my dear,' ſaid I, addreſſing the young woman again, 'might be the value of all your clothes?—'They coſt me, Sir,' replied ſhe, endeavouring haſtily to enumerate, 'I dare ſay, near ten pounds.'—'That is a great deal of money!'—'It is, indeed, Sir; and I have worked very hard for it theſe three years.'—'How old are you?'—'Nineteen, Sir.' I had but one ſolitary guinea in my pocket. O how I longed to be rich! A thought, however, ſtruck me—'Follow me, both of you,' ſaid I, 'we will ſee what can be done.' I knocked at the door; and, bidding them ſit down in the hall, ran up ſtairs to my friends. The company were aſſembled: there were about a dozen perſons preſent. 'I am in haſte!' ſaid I; they were all alarmed. What can be the matter? was impreſſed on every countenance. 'I am a bad orator,' continued I; 'but my feelings have been much affected by thoſe who could ſpeak but little. A decent young woman, going to ſervice, has juſt had the box, which contained her all, ſtolen from her brother's head. The poor girl is ruined, unleſs ten guineas can be raiſed: I have only one. Who will help me? Come, you ſhall ſee what powerful orators they are!' And I ordered them to be brought up. 'My life for it, your money will not be thrown away!' Every one was affected. The money was raiſed in an inſtant; and, with tears of gratitude, they departed, bleſſing their benefactors.

All of us agreed, on parting, that we had never ſpent a happier evening. How cheaply is felicity purchaſed, if men would but carry their money to the right market!

By Sir John Ramſay.

ACCOUNT OF EGYPTIAN MUMMIES.

BY JOHN FREDERICK BLUMENBACH, M. D. F. R. S.

DR BLUMENBACH opened four ſmall mummies, from nine to fourteen inches long, and two large ones. What he more particularly noticed was, the ſtate of the *inciſores*, as what may hereafter prove a criterion for determining the period at which any given mummy has been prepared; the maſk of ſycamore wood, ſhaped, by means of a thick coat of plaiſter, in baſs relief, into the form of a face, ſtained with natural colours: which laſt, with the *iron* nails, and the different wood of the ſarcophagus, are deemed ſuſpicious circumſtances, affecting the genuineneſs of the animal. The deſcription of the mummies by Herodotus and Diodorous Siculus, does not in the leaſt agree with the ſtate of thoſe brought into Europe, which are generally of two ſorts, the hard compact ones, wholly indued with roſin, which hence can be *knocked into pieces*, and the ſoft

ſoft ones, which yield to the preſſure of the hand, and are prepared with very little roſin, and often with none at all, *whoſe looſe bandages may be wound off*; and which contain in their cavities ſcarcely any thing but a vegetable mould, and particularly no idol whatever, as far as the Doctor had been able to learn. The front part of the latter is uſually covered with a painted, and at times, gilt, maſk of cotton cloth; and, as they appear more variegated than the former, and have no roſin in them yielding drugs for traffick, they are brought in much greater numbers, and may be ſeen in many collections in Europe, in a more perfect ſtate than the former, though often *rendered ſo by reſtoration*. The former, on the contrary, have, for this very reaſon, remained, moſt of them, in the hands of druggiſts. 'Neither of the ancient authors before referred to, mention the roſin or the painted maſks; though Herodotus expreſsly deſcribes ſuch painted integuments on the Ethiopian mummies; and Diodorus advances ſome very ſtrange aſſertions, ſuch as, that the ſkill of the embalmers extended ſo far as perfectly to preſerve the lineaments of the face, although the faces of mummies of both ſorts be generally covered with cotton cloth, to the thickneſs of nearly a man's hand.' Hence the Doctor concludes, that we have few mummies made in the time of thoſe writers; though what we now poſſeſs, which differ ſo much in their preparation and characteriſtic ſtructure, are at leaſt of a period including a thouſand years.

The two criteria for determining, with ſome accuracy, the age of any particular mummy, are: 1. a more accurate deter-mination of the *various*, ſo ſtrikingly *different*, and yet as ſtrikingly *characteriſtic*, national configurations in the monuments of the Egyptian arts, with a determination of the periods in which thoſe monuments were produced, and the cauſes of their remarkable differences; 2. a very careful technical examination of the characteriſtic forms of the ſeveral *ſculls* of mummies, and an accurate compariſon of thoſe ſculls with the monuments abovementioned. We muſt adopt, at leaſt, *three* principal *varieties* in the national phyſiognomy of the ancient Egyptians: 1. the Ethiopian caſt; 2. the one approaching to the Hindoo; and, 3. the *mixed*, partaking, in a manner, of both the former. The *firſt* is like the preſent Copts and the ancient Sphinx; the *ſecond* appears in the female figure painted on Capt. Lethuillier's mummy; the *third* partakes of both configurations. Theſe are ſeverally illuſtrated by prints. Adopting, as the Doctor thinks it conformable to nature, five races of the human ſpecies: 1. the Caucaſian; 2. the Mongolian; 3. the Malay; 4. the Ethiopian; 5. the American. He thinks the Egyptians will find their place between the Caucaſian and the Ethiopian; but that they differed from none more than from the Mongolian, to which the Chineſe belong.

The diminutive mummies are not of ſmall children and embryos; but ſome are the real mummies of Ibiſes, and, in ſome inſtances, may be conjectured to be dreſt up with a ſingle bone or two of that ſacred bird to paſs for the reality, and for the profit of the mummy manufacturers for ſale, or as the *memento mori* introduced at the Egyptian feſtivals.

From Tranſ. of Royal London Society for the year 1794.

CAUSES OF FEMALE CELIBACY, WITH A VINDICATION OF OLD MAIDS.

IT is a melancholy conſideration, to think of the numbers of young women who are turned looſe upon the world, over educated, without means to ſupport themſelves, and diſqualified to earn their living. There are very few trades for women; the men have uſurped two-thirds of thoſe that uſed to belong to them; the remainder are over-ſtocked, and there are few reſources for them. If they are handſome and amiable, their dangers are ſo much the more. Man, who ſhould be their protector, turns their betrayer, and too frequently abandons them to ſhame and poverty. How many are daily in danger of being ſtarved? How ma-

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ny are condemned to menial ſervices, for which their enervated bodies, and enfeebled minds, render them wholly unqualified? Moſt of theſe are the victims of their parents' pride and vanity.

The falſe ſentiments, falſe refinements, and falſe ſyſtems, of modern times, have counteracted the laws of nature and reaſon, and condemned a great number of women to a life of perpetual celibacy.

The adoration paid to wealth, the ſuppoſititious wants which luxury impoſes, have induced many parents to ſeclude from the world their younger children, in the hope of diſpoſing of the elder ones.—'This alſo is vanity.'—It is well known that, in Roman Catholic countries, moſt of the daughters are devoted to convents, to increaſe the fortunes of the elder ones.

In Proteſtant countries, though no vows are made, no confinement is exacted; yet nearly as many females are as much condemned to a ſtate of celibacy, as if they were ſhut up in a convent.

There are but a few men, comparatively, that will take for a wife an amiable maiden, without a fortune ſuitable to his own. Every young man is taught to look out where he can marry to advantage; wealth is ſuppoſed to include every thing; and bodily charms and mental qualities, ſhrink to nothing before it. Thus the ugly, the deformed, the fooliſh, the diſtempered, are preferred with fortunes; while the lovely, the amiable, the accompliſhed, who are every way qualified to be wives and mothers, are paſt by, neglected, deſpiſed, and forgotten.

It is allowed by all men, that women ſtand in need of protectors in every ſtage of their journey through life; but when they are thus circumſtanced, where are they to find them?

Brothers generally look on ſiſters as incumbrances on families; more remote relations ſeldom trouble themſelves about them: without fortunes, without friends, how can they ſuſtain

> The oppreſſor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,
> The pang of deſpis'd love, the law's delay,
> The inſolence of office, and the ſpurn
> That patient merit from th' unworthy takes?
>
> SHAKESPEARE.

But theſe are not all the injuries to which ſingle and unprotected women are liable. Thoſe who believe themſelves poſſeſſed of wit, uſe it to turn them to contempt and ridicule; not becauſe they are unworthy, but becauſe they are unfortunate. There are few modern comedies that do not give irrefragable proofs of this.—The Aunt Deborah's, and Mrs Malaprop's, are the ſtanding jeſt of the modern writers; and even Mr Cumberland, though a chaſte and refined writer, has lent his hand to throw a ſtone at ſiſters and aunts who are unmarried; whatever merit they may have, or whatever misfortunes they may have endured.

But there is *one* modern writer, who has gone ſtill further than this inſult; he has made uſe of the term *Old Maid!* as his vehicle to convey to the public ear all his ſatire and ridicule upon ſerious, and even ſacred ſubjects. It is true, that he has ſcattered in their way ſome ſugar plums and comfits, for the ſiſterhood, in order to conceal the poiſon he has mixed for them; but his malicious intention is eaſily ſeen and detected

I have by me an extract from a letter which a friend of mine received from one of the firſt writers in the kingdom, and which ſhe permitted me to copy—

'The book you mention is altogether execrable; and I have the ſatisfaction of knowing, that it is execrated by all who yet pretend to virtue or decency among us.'

Men who thus uſe their talents, derive neither honour nor advantage to themſelves; on the contrary, thoſe who have ſtood forth in the behalf of the defenceleſs part of our ſex, have, by reſpecting them, become truly reſpectable.

The names of Addiſon, Richardſon, Thomas, Ruſſel, Fordyce, Gregory, Percival, will always be remembered with honour, by the diſcerning and the worthy of both ſexes; for the female cauſe is the cauſe of virtue; and, I truſt, it will never want champions to ſupport it.

By Clara Reeve.

A PICTURE OF CONNUBIAL FELICITY.

COLD would be the heart of a husband, who did not feel more delight at seeing his child suckled by its mother, than the most artful wanton tricks could ever raise; yet this natural way of cementing the matrimonial tie, and twisting esteem with tender recollections, wealth leads women to spurn. To preserve their beauty, and wear the flowery crown of the day, that gives them a kind of right to reign for a short time over the sex, they neglect to stamp impressions on their husbands hearts, that would be remembered with more tenderness when the snow on the head began to chill the bosom, than even their virgin charms.

The maternal solicitude of a reasonable affectionate woman is very interesting; and the chastened dignity with which a mother returns the caresses that she and her child receive from a father, who has been fulfilling the duties of his station, is not only a respectable, but a beautiful sight. So singular, indeed, are my feelings, and I have endeavoured not to catch factitious ones, that after having been fatigued with the sight of insipid grandeur, and the slavish ceremonies, that with cumberous pomp supplied the place of domestic affections, I have turned to some other scene to relieve my eye by resting it on the refreshing green every where scattered by Nature. I have then viewed with pleasure a woman nursing her children, and discharging the duties of her station, with, perhaps, merely a servant-maid to take off her hands the servile part of the household business. I have seen her prepare herself and children, with only the luxury of cleanliness, to receive her husband; who, returning weary home in the evening, found smiling babes and a clean hearth. My heart has loitered in the group, and has even throbbed with sympathetic emotion, when the scraping of the well-known foot has raised a pleasing tumult.

Whilst my benevolence has been gratified by contemplating this artless picture, I have thought that a couple of this description, equally necessary and independent of each other, because each fulfilled the respective duties of their station, and possessed all that life could give. Raised sufficiently above abject poverty, not to be obliged to weigh the consequence of every farthing they spend; and having sufficient to prevent their attending to a frigid system of œconomy, which narrows both heart and mind. I declare, so vulgar are my conceptions, that I know not what is wanted to render this the happiest as well as the most respectable situation in the world, but a taste for literature, to throw a little variety and interest into social converse, and some superfluous money to give to the needy and to buy books. For it is not pleasant when the heart is opened by compassion, and the head active in arranging plans of usefulness, to have a prim urchin continually twitching back the elbow to prevent the hand from drawing out an almost empty purse, whispering at the same time some prudential maxim about the priority of justice.

By Mrs Mary Wollstonecraft.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE MAGNETIC FLUID.

BY CAPT. O'BRIAN DRURY, OF THE NAVY.

THE magnetic fluid and its phenomena, are not less singular than obscure, and have too long engaged the attention of philosophers for me to offer an hypothesis on the subject. I mean only to speak to a matter of fact, which I am led to believe may be serviceable to navigation, especially should the variation of the compass be made use of as a method for ascertaining the longitude.

It is not necessary to enter into a detail of experiments, to prove the existence of the magnetic fluid, which circulates continually around and through a magnet, as it is fully demonstrated by the arrangement of iron filings thrown on glass, placed over a magnet.

Experience shews us, that the needle of a compass, as well as all other magnets, whether artificial or real, perpetually loses something of its magnetic power, which often produces a difference exceeding

ceeding a point; and I am well convinced that, the great errors of ſhip-reckonings proceed more frequently from the incorrectneſs of the compaſs, than from any other cauſe.

Steel cannot be too highly tempered for the needle of a ſea-compaſs, as the more it is hardened the more permanent is the magnetiſm it receives; but, to preſerve the magnetiſm, and conſequently the polarity of the needle, I recommend to have the needle caſed with thin, well poliſhed, ſoft iron: or elſe to have it armed at the poles with a bit of ſoft iron.

I have found, from many experiments, that the caſed needle preſerved its magnetiſm in a much more perfect degree than the needle not caſed; and I have ſometimes thought, that the magnetic power of the caſed needle had encreaſed, while the magnetic power of the uncaſed and unarmed needle always loſes of its polarity.

Some time ago I placed a caſed needle, an armed needle, and one without either caſe or armour, in a room, for three months; each having at that time preciſely the ſame direction, and nearly the ſame degree of force. At the expiration of the three months, I found that the caſed needle and the armed needle had not in the leaſt changed their direction; but the other had changed two degrees, and had loſt very conſiderably of its magnetic power. If there was any change in any of the other needles, it was too inconſiderable to be perceived.

Theſe obſervations appear to me to be new, and may tend to great improvement in our ſea-compaſs. They are ſubmitted to the conſideration of Philoſophers.

Tranſactions of Royal Iriſh Academy.

ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN AND PRESERVE PRACTICAL STANDARDS FOR ADJUSTING, IN FUTURE, THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OF THIS KINGDOM.

Reſpectfully preſented to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce.

MANY learned and ingenious perſons have employed themſelves, in attempting to diſcover an univerſal Standard of Weights and Meaſures, renewable, in caſe of its being loſt, in any climate, and under any circumſtances; and ſome papers on this ſubject have been ſubmitted to the public, within theſe few years, by Mr Hutton and Mr Whitehurſt; but, after paying every attention to this matter in my power, I am induced, with due deference to ſuch authorities, to conclude, that ſuch a ſtandard may rather be conſidered as a thing deſirable, than likely to be obtained, at leaſt ſo as to ſerve practically the uſes in common life. I ſhall therefore beg leave to ſubmit my thoughts on this head, conſidering that what may be hereafter ſaid, is intended ſolely as an eaſy method of forming and preſerving a Standard of Weights and Meaſures for the uſe of theſe kingdoms, or any other that may think proper to adopt it; and which, it is preſumed, will anſwer all that is wiſhed for, in obtaining a Practical Standard for adjuſting, in future, the weights and meaſures of this country.

For this purpoſe I adviſe, that a certain weight be aſſumed, and called a Pound; and to avoid, as much as poſſible, any innovation or confuſion, let this aſſumed weight be adjuſted by the preſent ſtandard pound weight at his Majeſty's Exchequer, or the Guildhall of London. This weight may be made of braſs; but, as all metals are ſubject to decay and loſs by corroſion, by the air, friction, &c. let a piece of agate, or other hard ſtone, be cut into the form of an egg; and, when brought exactly to the weight of the braſs ſtandard, by carefully grinding and poliſhing, let it be preſerved in a proper caſe, lined with ſoft cloth or velvet, to be reſorted to whenever there may be occaſion. A piece of agate of this form ſeems ſo unlikely to be injured by any means, except ſuch a degree of violence as may break it, that there can be little doubt of its remaining of the ſame weight for ages; more eſpecially as it will be effectually guarded

from the action of the air, and all motion, in its caſe, and never expoſed, but on occaſion of comparing the braſs ſtandard with it; which, to prevent error, ſhould be done at ſtated times, as once in twelve months, on a day ſpecifically appointed for the purpoſe, in the preſence of ſuch officers as may be nominated, and with as much form and preciſion as is uſed in the trial of the Pix, to determine the ſtandard of the Coin.

I have hitherto only mentioned the pound weight; but it is obvious, that all the parts of the pound, as the half, the quarter, the ounce, &c. ſhould be provided for in the ſame manner. Let it be underſtood, that the pound hitherto ſpoken of is ſuppoſed to be what is generally called the Averdupois pound, and divided into ſixteen ounces, each ounce ſubdivided into ſixteen drachms. As this is the weight by which all large commodities are weighed, it does not appear to have been thought neceſſary that weights, ſmaller than the half-drachm, or the thirty-ſecond part of the ounce, ſhould be introduced; but, as that weight is nearly equal to thirteen grains and one half Troy, it may be farther divided, if judged proper, ſo as to weigh ſmall matters, as very fine thread, or other ſuch like valuable commodities, more accurately than is generally practiſed; and, if the drachm is ſubdivided into eight parts, each of them will be equal nearly to three grains and a half Troy. To avoid confuſion, all weights for this purpoſe, when ſold, ſhould differ in form from the grains uſed in Troy weight, and be called by ſome other name.

As it has been always cuſtomary to have weights of different dominations uſed in theſe kingdoms, and no ſufficient reaſon has appeared to juſtify an alteration in the practice; and as the Avoirdupois weight has been conſtantly uſed for large quantities of goods, and the Troy weight for ſmaller quantities, and the more valuable commodities; let a Troy pound be prepared, as has been already adviſed for the Avoirdupois, with its equal in agate, to be reſerved and uſed in all caſes as the other; and let this pound be divided, as has been the uſage for the gold-ſmith, into ounces, penny-weights, and grains; and for the apothecary, into ounces, drachms, ſcruples, and grains; each of them being adjuſted in the moſt accurate manner poſſible, ſo that all the aliquot parts ſhall bear a due proportion to the whole: and to this the moſt ſcrupulous exactneſs is neceſſary; for, from a defect in this inſtance, moſt of the complaints, on the want of a due ſtandard, ſeem to have originated.

Having thus, in as conciſe a manner as poſſible, ſubmitted my opinion on an eaſy way of obtaining a practical ſtandard for weights, which may at all times be reſorted to, without danger of ſuffering any diminution in bulk or weight, I ſhall only farther obſerve, that it may be adviſeable to have three ſets of theſe agate ſtandards, to be kept at different places; whereby the danger of the loſs of ſuch ſtandard, by fire or otherwiſe, will be effectually guarded againſt.

I ſhall now proceed to ſuggeſt a method, whereby meaſures of length, and conſequently meaſures of capacity, may be formed from the afore-mentioned ſtandards of weight.

It has been univerſally allowed, that the weight of a cubic foot of clear ſoft river water is equal to ſixty-two pounds and a half Avoirdupois weight, or one thouſand ounces; and the moſt celebrated authors have thence calculated and publiſhed the hydroſtatic weight of many ſolids: this appears a ſingular circumſtance, and not likely to have happened by chance, but to have been accompliſhed by means not tranſmitted to us. As this, however, if not ſtrictly true, is not far from the truth, I propoſe forming a meaſure on its principle, to be called the Britiſh foot.

Let, therefore a hollow cube be made of braſs, of ſuch dimenſions as to exactly contain a quantity of ſoft river-water, equal in weight to ſixty-two pounds and a half, or one thouſand ounces of the above-deſcribed Avoirdupois weight. To arrive at as great degree of preciſion as poſſible, it may be proper to fix ſome ſtandard of heat, at which, it is intended, the above quantity of water may be reckoned to fill the cube, and this may be

be at ſixty degrees of Faernheit's thermometer.

It will probably be attended with conſiderable difficulty and expence to procure ſuch a veſſel; but as it is to be preſumed that workmen may be found to execute it, the expence ſhould be no object; for ſuch weights as are above deſcribed, agreeing with ſuch a veſſel of water, will give a preciſion to hydroſtatic experiments, and determine the relative weight of ſolids to water, more clearly than is now eaſily done, and, at the ſame time, form a decided ſtandard of meaſure.

Having therefore procured ſuch a cubic veſſel, the length of one ſide of it is to conſtitute the Britiſh foot, which is to be divided into twelve inches, and thoſe inches into ſmaller parts, as uſual. It is hardly neceſſary to ſay that ſuch a meaſure of length being obtained, it will be proper that ſtandards be made in the manner formerly executed by Mr Bird; or, if any better have been diſcovered, that ſuch be adopted.

From the ſtandard Britiſh foot are to be calculated all meaſures of length, as yards, furlongs, miles, &c. It will, therefore, be highly proper to have ſome of theſe ſtandards moſt carefully executed, and preſerved, as has been already mentioned concerning the ſtandard weights; and that thoſe in uſe be alſo from time to time examined, and compared with ſome one kept for that purpoſe; ſo that, ſhould any error ariſe, it may not long ſubſiſt, and conſequently not become of magnitude ſufficient to do any injury.

From this meaſure of length, it is eaſy to aſſertain all meaſures of capacity; and if the ſeveral old Acts of Parliament which are ſtill in force, be carefully attended to, and the perſons employed to authenticate the meaſures by ſtamps, are fully informed of the neceſſity of the ſeveral meaſures being of the forms and dimenſions preſcribed by thoſe laws, it is preſumed a general meaſure and weight, ſufficiently accurate for all practical purpoſes, may be eaſily made and introduced throughout the kingdom: and of what advantage this would be, need not be mentioned.

At the beginning of this paper, it was obſerved, that I intended merely to confine myſelf to a practical method of obtaining a weight which might ſerve as a ſtandard for this kingdom. All theory, and all mathematical calculations, have therefore been ſedulouſly avoided; and I have, through the whole, endeavoured to form the new ſtandard on the baſis of the old one, thereby avoiding as much as poſſible all innovation; and, although it has been frequently propoſed to divide all weights and meaſures decimally, which certainly, in ſome caſes, would have its advantages, yet, when it is conſidered how much the generality of the people would be perplexed and confounded, ſhould ſuch a change be adopted, and reflecting how well the trade and commerce of the kingdom may be carried on, by conforming to the ancient mode, I have adviſed the adjuſting the weights and meaſures of this country, by the means above-mentioned, which, as appears to me, may be eaſily put in practice, with ſufficient accuracy, for all the common purpoſes of life.

By Samuel More, Eſq; Secretary to the Society.

METHOD OF RAISING EARLY POTATOES.

COMMUNICATED BY MR BLUNDEL OF ORMSKIRK, TO THE SURVEYOR OF THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

LANCASHIRE was the firſt county in this kingdom in which the potatoe was grown; and as it is able at this day to boaſt a ſuperior cultivation in that important article, in which it ſtill ſtands unrivalled, it may be requiſite to deſcend to particulars, in regard to the management of that crop.

1. A ſward, or freſh lay, is deſirable, but not always requiſite. Good crops have been frequently raiſed from lands exhauſted. The ground being previouſly cleaned by ploughings, and planted (if the ground cannot be got into condition in April) in drills about three feet diſtance, and from twelve to nine inches aſunder,

ſunder, in each drill, the ſets* placed immediately upon long dung from the yard, &c.; but dung from the great towns produces a wonderful effect upon lands not formerly accuſtomed to that article, and it is ſuppoſed will generally enrich twice as far, with equal effect, as the manure formerly uſed from the farm-yard &c. This is experienced in the lands bordering upon the canals.

2. Although April be the prime ſeaſon for producing a crop of good potatoes for the table; becauſe this vegetable requires a certain portion of time to acquire that degree of maturity which renders it peculiarly mellow and farinaceous, yet it is frequently planted as late as May, or even June, and yet produces abundant crops; but not of the ſame matured quality as thoſe planted at a more early ſeaſon.

3. The apprehenſion of froſts (by which, if the tops are caught, after breaking the ſurface, they pine and ſicken, and the hopes of the huſbandman are blaſted) ſometimes operate againſt this early ſeaſon; yet good planters riſque the chance of froſts, in order to obtain ſuperior quality.

4. The crops are kept clean from weeds by the plough, firſt by turning a furrow, left for that purpoſe, towards the young plants, as ſoon as they appear; and then by turning a furrow from each ſide of the drill, and which is ſometimes, if very foul, harrowed by a ſmall triangular harrow, running through each drill. After the weeds have been ſo expoſed, the furrow is turned back again, and ſometimes the ſame plough, or a double wreſted one, runs up each drill once more; beſides the deſtruction of weeds, the land, by theſe operations, is looſened, and expoſed to the ſun and air, which contributes greately to improve the crop.

5. The variety of ſeeds in uſe are numerous—Ox-noble, and the cluſter potatoe, are planted for the cattle; the pink-eye, and a variety of others, with different kinds of kidney-potatoes for the table. The old winter red, as it is ſometimes called, ought to be mentioned for its peculiar goodneſs in the ſpring, when other kinds have loſt their flavour; this potatoe is then in its beſt perfection; it has another quality, that of never having been known to curl. There are alſo great varities of early potatoes, and great attention is paid to raiſing new ſorts of the beſt qualities from ſeeds, of what is called the crabs, or ſuckles, which grow upon the ſtems.

6. Great attention is paid to changing the ſeed occaſionally, to prevent the curl, the practice of obtaining freſh ſeed from Scotland (as was the cuſtom a few years ago), is not now ſo frequent; a change from the moſs lands, and *vice verſa*, being generally ſufficient. A change of land is alſo deſirable, but not always practicable: Crops have been ſucceſsfully taken, for a ſucceſſion of years, from the ſame lands.

7. The produce of a crop is, on a medium, from two or three hundered meaſures, or buſhels, the ſtatute acre. The early potatoes are generally planted in beds, in rows about eight inches diſtant, and the ſets about four or five inches ſeparate; becauſe thoſe early potatoes, being of a leſs ſize, require a ſmaller ſpace; but the advanced price theſe early crops fetch at market render them a profitable article to the cultivator, who, beſides reaping a profit from this early produce, has his grounds prepared for another crop the ſame ſeaſon. The markets of Mancheſter, Oldham, Rochdale, and the neighbourhood, are ſupplied with great quantities, not only from Warrington, but as far as Rufford, Scariſhrick, &c.

Upon the ſame ground from which a crop has already been taken, the early ſeed potatoes are in ſome places afterwards planted, and which, after being got up about November, and immediately

* The ſurveyor has made ſome experiments to aſcertain the beſt mode of cutting the ſets; for, if the potatoes be ſet whole, putrefaction does not always enſue, and which ſeems advantageous to the following crop; a ſet of a large ſize, to a certain degree, is better than a ſmall one. The beſt method he has yet diſcovered is taking off the ſprout, or noſe end, and the umbilical, or tail end, of the potatoe, and having the middle entirely for the ſet; the worſt method of cutting the potatoe appears to him [illegible] the potatoe down the middle, from noſe [illegible]ail end; a practice but too common.

ly cut up into ſets, and preſerved in oat ſhells, or ſaw duſt, where they remain till March, when they are planted, after having taken off one ſprit, and planted with another of a length ſufficient to appear above ground in the ſpace of a week. But the moſt approved method is, that they cut the ſets, and put them on a room floor, where a ſtrong current of air can be introduced at pleaſure, the ſets laid thinner, viz. about two lays in depth, and covered with the like materials (ſhells or ſaw) about two inches thick: This ſcreens them from the winter froſts, and keeps them moderately warm, but at the ſame time admits air to ſtrengthen them, and harden their ſhoots, which they improve by opening the doors and windows on every opportunity of mild ſoft weather: They frequently examine them, and when the ſhoots are ſprung an inch and a half, or two inches, they carefully remove one half of their covering, with a wooden rake, or with the hands, taking care not to diſturb or break the ſhoots: In this manner they remain till the planting ſeaſon, giving them all the air poſſible by the doors and windows, when it can be done ſafely from froſt: By this method the ſhoots at top become green, leaves are ſprung, and moderately hardy. They plant then in rows, in the uſual method, by a ſetting-ſtick, and carefully rake up the cavities made by the ſetting-ſtick; by this method they are enabled to bear a little froſt without injury. The earlieſt potatoe is the ſuperfine white kidney; from this ſort, upon the ſame ground, have been raiſed four crops, having ſets from the repoſitory ready to put in as ſoon as the others were taken up; and a fifth crop is ſometimes raiſed, from the ſame lands, of winter lettuce.

8. The manner of taking them up varies. The three-pronged fork is in general uſe—the ſoil turned over, the weeds picked out, the potatoes gathered and ſeparated according to their ſize, by the ſame perſon. Another practice is, for a ſtrong man to take a three-pronged fork, but crooked (the ſame which is generally uſed to pull dung out of the cart) which he ſtrikes down between every root, and pulls over, laying the roots bare, which are taken up by two children that follow. Another practice is, to turn a furrow from the potatoes, with a Rotherham plough, and then with another plough, furniſhed only with a ſhare, to turn up the potatoes, which are afterwards gathered.

After the potatoes are gathered, and ſufficiently dried, they are put together in heaps, in the ſhape of the roof of a building, covered cloſely with ſtraw, which ſhould be drawn ſtraight, and to meet from each ſide in a point at the top, about ſix inches in thickneſs, and then covered with mould, cloſely compacted together, by frequent applications of the ſpade; after which, Mr Eccleſton makes holes in the mould, at the ſides and tops of theſe repoſitories, as deep as the ſtraw, and about three yards diſtant, to permit the air, which, he ſays, viſibly ariſes from the fermentation, to eſcape; after the fermentation has ceaſed, the holes are cloſed, to prevent the effects of froſts or rain.

9. The utility of the application of potatoes to feeding ſtock is ſufficiently known, but not ſufficiently practiſed.—Converting the produce into immediate caſh, by taking it to market, is a ſtronger temptation then waiting the more tedious proceſs of purchaſing ſtock, and fattening the cattle; but a ſource of improvement to the land, and conſequently ſuperior in the iſſue, is by this means done away.

10. From the great quantities conſumed by ſtock it may not be amiſs to mention the manner of boiling, &c. which is almoſt univerſally by ſteam, in a large hamper or tub, perforated, and placed over the water; in this way they are readier for uſe than by being emerged in water; after which they are given either warm or cold, mixed with chaff, bran, hay-ſeeds, barley, or oatmeal.

To conclude, if America, whence this choice vegetable was firſt imported, had yielded nothing elſe to the reſearches of the European than the potatoe, the preſent generation would have reaſon to be thankful for the acquiſition, and to the planters in Lancaſhire, for their ſpirited attention to the cultivation of that excellent root.

ME-

METHOD OF CURING BUTTER IN THE PARISH OF UDNEY, AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

FROM GENERAL VIEW OF AGRICULTURE IN ABERDEENSHIRE.

TAKE two parts of the beſt common ſalt, one part ſugar, and one part ſaltpetre, beat up together, and blend the whole completely. Take one ounce of this compoſition for every ſixteen ounces of butter, work it well into the maſs, and cloſe it up for uſe.

No ſimple improvement in œconomics is greater than this, when compared with the uſual method of curing butter by means of common ſalt alone. In any open market the one would ſell for thirty per cent. more than the other. The butter thus cured appears of a rich marrowy conſiſtence, and fine colour, and never acquires a brittle hardneſs, nor taſtes ſalt like the other, which has the appearance of tallow.

Butter cured by this new method muſt not be opened for uſe for at leaſt one month after it is made up.

The practice of keeping milk in leaden veſſels, and of ſalting butter in ſtone jars, &c. is very detrimental; the well-known effects of the poiſon of lead are, bodily debility, paſſy, death.—The uſe of wooden veſſels for theſe purpoſes is moſt wholeſome and more cleanly.

By J. Anderſon, LL. D.

*** It muſt be attended to, that this mode of cure only anſwers for the table, ſuch butter as is intended for kitchen-uſe muſt be cured without ſaltpetre, which riddens all animal food.

PROGRESS OF IMPROVEMENT IN THE PARISH OF DALZIEL,

IN THE COUNTY OF LANARK.

THE late Archibald Hamilton, Eſq; the father of the preſent proprietor, enjoyed the eſtate during the courſe of a long life. His father had begun to plant a little, and this branch of cultivation he proſecuted for a good part of his life, with great judgement and perſeverance, planting all kind of trees known in this country, adapting each to its proper ſituation and expoſure, and covering and adorning a country which before was ſterile and naked, with extenſive foreſts. His ſucceſs was equal to his attention. His plantations were extended to 150 acres of foreſt trees, which are the admiration of all who have ſeen them; to which his ſucceſſor has added about 10 acres more, beautifying the country, and ſheltering the neighbouring fields from the cutting blaſts, by which alone the fertility of many of them is greatly increaſed. He had the good fortune to live to ſee trees, which he had planted after he appeared as a lawyer at the bar, grown to 12 feet in girth. He pleaſed himſelf with having the furniture of his dinning room made of his wood. And for ſeveral years ſince his death, more timber of his planting has been ſold, in one year, than the value of the yearly rent of the eſtate, when he entered into the poſſeſſion of it; and yet the trees are ſtill ſo crouded, as to want room to expand their branches.

He was no leſs attentive to the orchard than to the foreſt. Upon ſloping banks by the ſides of brooks, &c. he planted apple, pear, and plumb trees, from time to time, to the extent of 20 acres; and for a long time paſt, ſince theſe have grown up, the fruit has been ſold, in good years, from 100l. to 167l. Of all theſe twenty acres, not ſix were worth 6d. an acre, except for planting foreſt trees; but from the variety of expoſures which theſe orchards enjoy, and the tall foreſts which boſom them, ſo many of them are ſecured from the injury of blights and mildews, as always to enſure a crop of fruit, if there be fruit any where in the country.

Nor was he leſs ſucceſsful in promoting improvement in agriculture, by cheriſhing and prompting the induſtry of his tenants. He convinced them, by the whole of his conduct, that he took an intereſt in their welfare. He and his family made themſelves intimately acquainted with their condition, were ever ready to hear their tale, to take part in their trouble, or to rejoice in their proſperity.

ſperity. If any of his huſbandmen were borne down with preſſure of incidental misfortunes, he raiſed them again by his bounty and forbearance, never diſmiſſing any of them who were willing to continue in their poſſeſſions: but, at the end of every leaſe, preferring them, or their poſterity, to a new one, at a reaſonable rent; and this has been ſo uniformly the practice of his family, that there are tenants who can reckon their anceſtors in poſſeſſion of the ſame farm, previous to the period at which this family became proprietors. He incloſed the fields with hedges, and ſheltered them with planting. He aboliſhed the feudal cuſtom of exacting carriages and other ſervices from his tenants: and, in ſhort, did every thing to turn their attention ſolely to the cultivation of their own farms. Under this mild and benevolent treatment, the peaſantry, finding their induſtry tended as much to their own and their poſterity's permanent advantage, as to that of an indulgent landlord, profited by every leſſon and example. They began to ſummer fallow their fields, to ſtraight their crooked ridges, to carry lime, and make compoſts; and the benevolent ſpirit of their landlord ſpreading among them, every one is ready to aſſiſt his neighbour on all emergencies. And thus has the value of the eſtate riſen to nearly five times the yearly rent, which it yielded when the ſame gentleman firſt ſucceeded to it; and at the ſame time the condition of the tenants, with their moderate farms, and plain manner of life, is perhaps as happy as any to be met with.

This pariſh is indebted to its late proprietor for another important improvement. All along the high ways, he gave leaſes and feus of ſpots of little value, for building. On theſe there are now upwards of 50 handſome cottages erected, filled with induſtrious inhabitants, having neat little kitchen gardens around them; by which he not only improved and beautified his own eſtate, but ſet an example, which has ſince been followed by others.

Statiſtical Account.

FAIR ROSAMOND.

THE following account is given of the Fair Roſamond, in a very entertaining work juſt publiſhed.

'THAT a young monarch ſhould become enamoured of tranſcendent beauty; and that the tenderneſs or the vanity of the female heart might render it an eaſy conqueſt to a royal lover, are events, which it requires but little knowledge of the human paſſions to conſider as of the moſt natural occurrence. That the deſerted or neglected Queen ſhould feel the reſentful pangs of jealouſy at ſuch an infringement of her conjugal rights, and that, with her violent temper and active mind, ſhe ſhould meditate revenge, is ſo true to nature, that the underſtanding meets it with a willing belief. Nor is it leſs credible, that, during the abſence of the enamoured monarch, engaged in diſtant wars, ſhe ſhould let looſe her impatient revenge on the unhappy object of her jealous fury. Nothing, ſurely, can be found in theſe circumſtances of the ſtory to check belief; and there is every thing in its cataſtrophe to call forth thoſe emotions of pity, which at once pain and pleaſe the tender heart. The bard of former times has ſung the fate of Roſamond, and it is, perhaps, to his unpoliſhed muſe that we are chiefly indebted for the bowl which concluded it, as well as the maſſy lybarinth that was formed, but formed in vain, to protect her from it. Her ſtory is to be found among thoſe ancient ballads which compoſed ſo much of the poetry, and no ſmall part of the vulgar hiſtory, of the times when they were written. Popular belief, which incurioufly reſts on popular traditions, has continued to embrace, with equal reliance, the facts as well as the machinery of theſe ditties; and leaves the taſk of ſeparating the one from the other to thoſe ſolemn enquirers, who, ſuperior to ſentiment, and diſdainful of nature, never to diſbelieve where authority is ſilent. We ſhall conſider it, however, as a natural tranſition from circumſtance to belief, when we repreſent the fountain which flows perennial on the ſite of the palace, recorded to have been the habitation of

Roſamond, as having furniſhed the beverage of her table, ſupplied the ciſtern in which ſhe bathed, or formed a chriſtal mirror that ſometimes reflected her charms. But ſhould this ſpring be thought too fanciful a ſource of moral influence; if it cannot be ſuppoſed that the fair one who beholds it, may ſeriouſly reflect on the fate of fallen beauty; or that the youth, as he ſtands on the margin, may ſhudder at the crime of ſeduction:—ſtill, as it poſſeſſes a certain traditional power to turn, awhile, the attention of the traveller from the ſplendid water that flows by it, and to awaken thoſe tender ſympathies, which if they exiſt but for a moment, for that moment, improve the heart, we cannot but wiſh to conſider it as having adminiſtered to the ſervice of the diſtinguiſhed beauty from whom it derives its name.'

From Hiſtory of Rivers of Great Britain.
See Account of it, p. 29.

ACCOUNT OF COLONEL MAECK.

COLONEL MAECK is a native of Wurzburg, and ſon of a tradeſman of that place. He began his military career as a common Huſſar in an Auſtrian regiment; but his uncommon talents for military drawing, his unwearied application to this art, and his extraordinary ſkill in laying down plans, ſoon raiſed him from obſcurity, and introduced him to the notice of Marſhal Laudohn. This General employed him on different occaſions, and attached him to the Staff of the army under the character of a Geographic Engineer.

His diſtinguiſhed conduct at the affair of Luſcheid more ingratiated him with that great commander. Field Marſhal Laudohn had made all his diſpoſitions for croſſing the Danube, and attacking that place. Mr Maeck, who had formed the plan of paſſing the river, as well as that of the attack, went the night before to the Marſhal to receive his laſt orders; when this General informed him, that he had juſt received intelligence of the Turks having been reinforced at Liſſa by a corps of 20,000 men, and that, of courſe, he had given up his project of an attack; nay, after paſſing the river, in caſe of meeting with any diſaſter, he ſhould be at a loſs how to effect a retreat. Mr Maeck did not credit the report of the reinforcement, but could not prevail on the Marſhal to execute his intended attack. The Colonel left the General, croſſed the Danube in a boat, accompanied by one ſingle Hulan, ſtole into the place, got certain information of the ſuppoſed reinforcement not having arrived, took a Turkiſh officer priſoner in the ſuburb, recroſſed the Danube, and at four o'clock in the morning informed the Marſhal of his expedition. On this report the Auſtrian army paſſed the river, and took Liſſa, the whole garriſon of which place, conſiſting of 6,000 men, were made priſoners of war.

In the preſent war Colonel Maeck, ſtill attached to the Staff, has much contributed to the ſucceſſes obtained at the beginning of the campaign, eſpecially at the attack and capture of the camp of Famars, for which he made all the neceſſary diſpoſitions. In this affair he received a wound, the cure of which obliged him to repair to Bruſſels. He expected to be made Quarter-Maſter-General of Prince Cobourg's army, but this place having fallen to the ſhare of Prince Hohenlohe, his wound afforded him a pretext to retire to Vienna. Called there to the conferences held with reſpect to the plan of operations for the enſuing campaign, he cauſed a ſyſtem to be adopted totally different from that which had been purſued in the preceeding campaign. This he laid at Bruſſels before the commanding Generals of the confederate troops, who gave it their fulleſt approbation.

POPULATION OF CHINA COMPARED WITH OTHER COUNTRIES.

WHEN the immenſe population of China is mentioned, it ſtrikes every hearer with admiration and wonder——To conceive two hundred millions of men living

living under the ſame government, and united by the ſame bonds of Society, is really a ſublime and noble idea; and certainly commands our attention. But we ſhould not ſuffer our thoughts to be led away by the mere idea of the number of the inhabitants, without conſidering the extent of the territory which contains them; and thereby adapting an equal proportion of men to each ſquare mile: and when this is done, I think our wonder will be ſomewhat abated.

This country is ſaid to be ſo populous, that parents make no ſcruple of expoſing their children, when they have too many; and in this they are tolerated by their government. M. Groſier endeavours to account for this great propagation in ſeveral ways; and his obſervations may be juſt.

The number of ſquare miles in China, including Chineſe Tartary, is 1,746,100. This divided among two hundred millions of people, gives one hundred and fourteen inhabitants to a ſquare mile: but this is no ſuch great population: it is not greater than many of the European States.

The proportional average of

France is,	113
Bohemia, Sardinia, Savoy and Moravia,	117
Pope's Dominions,	121
Saxony,	123
Italy,	131
Venice,	143
Naples and the Palatinate of the Rhine,	146

But ſuppoſe we exclude Chineſe Tartary, which contains 944,000 miles, when the average will be 181. Yet ſtill we can find ſome States which fall very little ſhort of it, and ſome which far exceed it.

Duchy of Milan is,	176
Netherlands,	188
Holland,	203

Nevertheleſs we find, that in theſe two laſt mentioned States, the inhabitants live without the neceſſity of deſtroying their children, or without any inconvenience ariſing from their number,

But theſe are nothing to what the reader will find mentioned in Guthrie's Syſtem of Geography, page 938, viz. "That the iſland of Barbadoes in the year 1676 contained 150,000 inhabitants," which amounts to the enormous proportion of 510 to a mile, a thing which almoſt ſtaggers our faith. May I be permitted to add, that (to the diſgrace of human nature, and the pity of every benevolent mind) out of this number there were 100,000 ſlaves!!! Would to God it were not true.—The *true* philoſopher would gladly diſpenſe with ſuch a phenomenon (if I may ſo call it) when it is attended by ſuch a train of ſorrow.

But, ſetting aſide this enormous proportion of inhabitants to the iſland of Barbadoes, I think, from the above ſtatement of ſome of the moſt populous States in Europe, we may venture to ſay, that China does not poſſeſs that precedency in population, which is generally given it.

X.

ON THE CHOICE OF A WIFE *.

THERE is no ſpecies of advice which ſeems to come with more peculiar propriety from parents to children, than that which reſpects the marriage ſtate; for it is a matter in which the firſt muſt have acquired ſome experience, and the laſt cannot. At the ſame time, it is found to be that in which advice produces the leaſt effect. For this, various cauſes may be be aſſigned; of which, no doubt, the principal is, that paſſion commonly takes this affair under its management, and excludes reaſon from her ſhare of the deliberation. I am inclined to think, however, that the neglect with which admonitions on this head are treated, is not unfrequently owing to the manner in which they are given, which is often too general, too formal, and with too little accommodation to the feelings of young perſons. If, in deſcanting a little upon this ſubject, I can avoid theſe errors, I flatter myſelf you are capable of beſtowing ſome unforced attention to what an affectionate deſire of promoting your happineſs, in ſo eſſential a point, may prompt.

* Our readers will find ſome thoughts on the ſame ſubject, in p. 247 of Vol. 56.

The difference of opinion, between ſons and fathers, in the matrimonial choice may be ſtated in a ſingle poſition —that the former have in their minds the whole of its duration. Perhaps you will, and with juſtice, deny that this is the difference between us two, and will aſſert that you, as well as I, in thinking of this connection, reflect upon its laſting conſequences. So much the better! We are then agreed as to the mode in which it is to be conſidered, and I have the advantage of you only in experience and more extenſive obſervation.

I need ſay little as to the ſhare that perſonal charms ought to have in fixing a choice of this kind. While I readily admit, that it is deſireable, that the object on which the eyes are moſt frequently to dwell for a whole life, ſhould be an agreeable one; you will probably as freely acknowledge, that more than this is of too fanciful and fugitive a nature to come into the computation of permanent enjoyment. Perhaps in this matter I might look more narrowly for you, than you would for yourſelf, and require a ſuitableneſs of years and vigour of conſtitution, which might continue this advantage to a period that you do not yet contemplate. But dropping this part of the ſubject, let us proceed to conſider the two main points on which the happineſs to be expected from a female aſſociate in life muſt depend—her qualifications as a *companion*, and as a *helper*.

Were you engaged to make a voyage round the world, on the condition of ſharing a cabin with an unknown meſſmate, how ſolicitous would you be to diſcover his character and diſpoſition before you ſet ſail? If, on inquiry, he ſhould prove to be a perſon of good ſenſe and cultivated manners, and eſpecially, of a temper inclined to pleaſe and be pleaſed, how fortunate would you think yourſelf? But if, in addition to this, his taſtes, ſtudies, and opinions, ſhould be found conformable to yours, your ſatisfaction would be complete. You could not doubt that the circumſtance which brought you together, would lay a foundation of an intimate and delightful friendſhip. On the other hand, if he were repreſented, by thoſe who thoroughly knew him, as weak, ignorant, obſtinate and quarrelſome, of manners and diſpoſitions totally oppoſite to your own, you would probably rather give up your project, than ſubmit to live ſo many months confined with ſuch an aſſociate.

Apply this compariſon to the domeſtic companion of the voyage of life—the intimate of all hours—the partaker of all fortunes—the ſharer of pain and pleaſure —the mother and inſtructreſs of your offſpring. Are you not ſtruck with a ſenſe of the infinite conſequence it muſt be of to you, what are the qualities of the heart and underſtanding of one who ſtands in this relation; and comparative inſignificance of external charms and ornamental accompliſhments? But as it is ſcarcely probable that all you would wiſh in theſe particulars can be obtained, it is of importance to aſcertain which qualities are the moſt eſſential, that you may make the beſt compromiſe in your power. Now, taſtes, manners, and opinions, being things not original, but acquired, cannot be of ſo much conſequence as the fundamental properties of good ſenſe and good temper. Poſſeſſed of theſe, a wife who loves her huſband will faſhion herſelf in the others according to what ſhe perceives to be his inclination; and if, after all, a conſiderable diverſity remain between them in ſuch points, this is not incompatible with domeſtic comfort. But ſenſe and temper can never be diſpenſed with in the companion for life: they form the baſis on which the whole edifice of happineſs is to be raiſed. As both are abſolutely eſſential, it is needleſs to enquire which is ſo in the higheſt degree. Fortunately, they are oftener met with together than ſeparate; for the juſt and reaſonable eſtimation of things which true good ſenſe inſpires, almoſt neceſſarily produces that equanimity and moderation of ſpirit in which good temper properly conſiſts. There is, indeed, a kind of thoughtleſs good nature, which is not unfrequently coupled with weakneſs of underſtanding; but having no power of ſelf direction, its operations are capricious, and no reliance can be placed on it in promoting ſolid felicity.

When

When, however, this eaſy humour appears with the attractions of youth and beauty, there is danger leſt even men of ſenſe ſhould overlook the defects of a ſhallow capacity, eſpecially if they have entertained the too common notion, that women are no better than playthings, deſigned rather for the amuſement of their lords and maſters, than for the more ſerious purpoſes of life. But no man ever married a fool without ſeverely repenting it; for though the pretty trifler may have ſerved well enough for the hour of dalliance and gaiety, yet when folly aſſumes the reins of domeſtic, and eſpecially of parental controul, ſhe will give a perpetual heart-ache to a conſiderate partner.

On the other hand, there are to be met with inſtances of conſiderable powers of the underſtanding, combined with waywardneſs of temper, ſufficient to deſtroy all the comfort of life. Malignity is ſometimes joined with wit, haughtineſs and caprice with talents, fourneſs and ſuſpicion with ſagacity, and cold reſerve with judgment. But all theſe being in themſelves unamiable qualities, it is leſs neceſſary to guard againſt the poſſeſſors of them. They generally render even beauty unattractive; and no charm but that of fortune is able to overcome the repugnance they excite. How much more fatal than even folly they are to all domeſtic felicity, you have probably already ſeen enough of the matrimonial ſtate to judge.

Many of the qualities which fit a woman for a companion, alſo adapt her for the office of a *helper*; but many additional ones are requiſite. The original purpoſe for which this ſex was created, is ſaid, you know, to have been, providing man with a *help-mate*; yet it is, perhaps, that notion of a wife which leaſt occupies the imagination in the ſeaſon of courtſhip. Be aſſured, however, that as an office of *life*, its importance ſtands extremely high to one whoſe ſituation does not place him above the want of ſuch an aid; and fitneſs for it ſhould make a leading conſideration in his choice. Romantic ideas of domeſtic felicity, will infallibly, in time, give way to that true ſtate of things, which will ſhew that a large part of it muſt ariſe from well ordered affairs, and an accumulation of petty comforts and conveniencies. A clean and quiet fire ſide, regular and agreeable meals, decent apparel, a houſe managed with order and œconomy, ready for the reception of a friend, or the accommodation of a ſtranger, a ſkilful as well as affectionate nurſe in time of ſickneſs—all theſe things compoſe a very conſiderable part of what the nuptial ſtate was intended to afford us; and without them, no charms of perſon or underſtanding will long continue to beſtow delight. The arts of houſewifery ſhould be regarded as *profeſſional* to the woman who intends to become a wife; and to ſelect one for that ſtation who is deſtitute of them, or diſinclined to exerciſe them, however otherwiſe accompliſhed, is as abſurd, as it would be to chooſe, for your lawyer or phyſician, a man who excelled in every thing rather than in law or phyſic.

Let me remark, too, that knowledge and good-will are not the only requiſites for the office of a helper. It demands a certain energy both of body and mind which is leſs frequently met with among the females of the preſent age than might be wiſhed. How much ſoever infirm and delicate health may intereſt the feelings, it is certainly an undeſireable attendant on a connection for life. Nothing can be more contrary to the qualification of a help-mate, than a condition which conſtantly requires that aſſiſtance which it can impart. It is, I am ſure, the fartheſt thing from my intention to harden your heart againſt impreſſions of pity, or ſlacken thoſe ſervices of affectionate kindneſs by which you may ſoften the calamitous lot of the moſt amiable and deſerving of the ſpecies. But a matrimonial choice is a choice for your own benefit, by which you are to obtain additional ſources of happineſs; and it would be mere folly, in their ſtead, voluntarily to take upon you new incumbrances and diſtreſſes. Akin to the unnerved frame of body, is that ſhrinking timidity of mind, and exceſſive nicety of feeling, which is too much encouraged under the notion of female delicacy. That this is carried beyond all reaſonable

bounds

bounds in modern education, can fcarcely be doubted by one who conſiders what exertions of fortitude and ſelf-command are continually required in the courſe of female duty. One who views ſociety cloſely, in its interior as well as exterior, will know that occaſions of alarm, ſuffering and diſguſt, come much more frequently in the way of women than of men. To them belong all offices about the weak, the ſick, and the dying. When the houſe becomes a ſcene of wretchedneſs from any cauſe, the man often runs abroad, the women muſt ſtay at home and face the worſt. All this takes place in cultivated ſociety, and in claſſes of life raiſed above the common level. In a ſavage ſtate, and in the lower conditions, women are compelled to undergo even the moſt laborious as well as the moſt diſagreeable taſks. If nature, then, has made them ſo weak in temper and conſtitution as many ſuppoſe, ſhe has not fitted means to ends with the fore-ſight we generally diſcover in her plans.

I confeſs myſelf decidedly of the opinion of thoſe who would rather form the two ſexes to a reſemblance of character, than contraſt them. Virtue, wiſdom, preſence of mind, patience, vigour, capacity, application, are not *ſexual* qualities; they belong to mankind—to all who have duties to perform and evils to endure. It is ſurely a moſt degrading idea of the female ſex, that they muſt owe their influence to trick and fineſſe, to counterfeit or real weakneſs. They are too eſſential to our happineſs to need ſuch arts; too much of the pleaſure and of the bleſſings of the world depends upon them, to give reaſon for apprehenſion that we ſhall ceaſe to join partnerſhip with them. Let them aim at excelling in the qualities peculiarly adapted to the parts they have to act, and they may be excuſed from affected langour and coquetry. We ſhall not think them leſs amiable for being our beſt helpers.

Having thus endeavoured to give you juſt ideas of the principal requiſites in a wife, eſpecially in a wife for one in your condition, I have done all that lies within the compaſs of an adviſer. From the influence of paſſion I cannot guard you: I can only deprecate its power. It may be more to the purpoſe to diſſuade you from *haſty engagements*, becauſe in making them, a perſon of any reſolution is not to be regarded as merely paſſive. Though the head has loſt its rule over the heart, it may retain its command of the hand. And ſurely if we are to pauſe before any action, it ſhould be before one on which 'all the colour of remaining life' depends. Your reaſon muſt be convinced, that to form a ſolid judgment of ſo many qualities as are requiſite in the conjugal union, is no affair of days and weeks, of caſual viſits or public exhibitions. Study your object at *home*—ſee her tried in her proper department. Let the progreſs be, liking, approving, loving, and laſtly declaring; and may you, after the experience of as many years as I have had, be as happily convinced, that a choice ſo formed is not likely to deceive!

You may think it ſtrange, that I have not touched upon a conſideration which generally takes the lead in parental eſtimates of matrimonial views—that of *fortune*. But I have been treating on the *woman* only, not on any thing extraneous to her. Fortune acquired with a wife is the ſame thing as fortune got any other way. It has its value, and certainly no ſmall one, in procuring the deſirable comforts of life; and to ruſh into a ſtate in which wants will be greatly increaſed, without a reaſonable proſpect of being able to ſupply thoſe wants, is an act, not merely of careleſſneſs, but of downright folly. But with reſpect to the ſources whence their ſupply is to be ſought, that is a particular inquiry to each individual; and I do not think ſo ill of your prudence as to apprehend that you will not give it all the attention its importance demands. Another conſideration, that of the *family connections* formed by marriage, is of a ſimilar kind. Its great importance cannot be doubted; but it is an affair to be determined on by the dictates of common prudence, juſt as in forming thoſe connections after any other mode; though, indeed, in no other can they be for-

formed equally ſtrong. One who is maſter of his deliberations, may be truſted to decide theſe points, as well as any others that occur in the practice of life.

Letters by J. Aiken, M. D.

CEREMONY OF WIDOWS DEVOTING THEMSELVES ON THE FUNERAL PILE OF THEIR HUSBANDS IN HINDOSTAN.

WHILE I was purſuing my profeſſional labours in Benares, I received information of a ceremony which was to take place on the banks of the river, and which greately excited my curioſity. I had often read, and repeatedly heard, of that moſt horrid cuſtom amongſt, perhaps, the moſt mild and gentle of the human race, the Hindoos; the ſacrifice of the wife on the death of the huſband, and that by a means from which nature ſeems to ſhrink with the utmoſt abhorrence, by burning. Many inſtances of this practice have been given by travellers; thoſe whom I have met with, only mention it as taking place among the higheſt claſſes of ſociety, whoſe vanity united with ſuperſtitious prejudices might have dictated the circumſtance; and I confeſs I could not entertain any other ideas, when I obſerved the theatrical parade that ſeemed to attend it. Mr Holwell, in his curious work, entitled 'Hiſtorical events relative to India', thus accounts for this more than inhuman practice: 'At the demiſe of the mortal part of the Hindoo great law-giver and prophet, Bramah, his wives, inconſolable for his loſs, reſolved not to ſurvive him, and offered themſelves voluntary victims on his funeral pile. The wives of the chief Rajahs, the firſt officers of the ſtate, being unwilling to have it thought that they were deficient in fidelity and affection, followed the heroic example ſet them by the wives of Bramah. The Brahmins, a tribe then newly eſtabliſhed by their great legiſlator, pronounced and declared, that the ſpirits of thoſe heroines immediately ceaſed from their tranſmigrations, and had entered the firſt baboon of purification: it followed that their wives claimed a right of making the ſame ſacrifice of their mortal forms to God, and the manes of their deceaſed huſbands. The wives of every Hindoo caught the enthuſiaſtic (now pious) flame. Thus the heroic actions of a few women brought about a general cuſtom. The Bramins had given it the ſtamp of religion, and inſtituted the forms and ceremonials that were to accompany the ſacrifice, ſubject to reſtrictions, which leave it a voluntary act of glory, piety, and fortitude.'

The author proceeds to ſtate expreſsly, that he has been preſent at many of theſe ſacrifices, and particularly and minutely records one that happened on the the 4th of February, 1742 3, near to Coſſimbuzar, of a young widow, between ſeventeen and eighteen years of age, leaving at ſo early an age three children, two boys, and a girl; the eldeſt he mentions as not then being four years of age. This infatuated heroine was ſtrongly urged to live, for the future care of, her infants; but notwithſtanding this, though the agonies of death were painted to her in the ſtrongeſt and moſt lively terms, ſhe, with a calm and reſolved countenance, put her finger into the fire, and held it there a conſiderable time; ſhe then with one hand put fire in the palm of the other, ſprinkled incenſe on it, and fumigated the Bramins. She was then given to underſtand, by ſome of her friends, that ſhe would not be permitted to burn herſelf, and this intimation appeared to give her deep affliction for a few moments; after which ſhe reſolutely replied, that death was in her own power, and that if ſhe was not allowed to burn according to the principles of her caſt, ſhe would ſtarve herſelf. Her friends finding her thus peremptory, were obliged at laſt to conſent to the dreadful ſacrifice of this lady, who was of high rank. The perſon whom I ſaw was of the Bhyſe (merchant) tribe or caſt; a claſs of people we ſhould naturally ſuppoſe exempt from the high and impetuous pride of rank, and in whom the natural deſire to preſerve life ſhould in general predominate, undiverted from its proper courſe by a proſpect

of poſthumous fame. I may add, that theſe motives are greatly ſtrengthened by the exemption of this claſs from that infamy with which the refuſal is inevitably branded in their ſuperiors.

Upon my repairing to the ſpot, on the banks of the river, where the ceremony was to take place, I found the body of the man on a bier, and covered with linen, already brought down and laid at the edge of the river. At this time, about ten in the morning, only a few people were aſſembled, who appeared deſtitute of feeling at the cataſtrophe that was to take place; I may even ſay that they diſplayed the moſt perfect apathy and indifference. After waiting a conſiderable time, the wife appeared, attended by the bramins, and muſic, with ſome few relations. The proceſſion was ſlow and ſolemn; the victim moved with a ſteady and firm ſtep; and, apparently with a perfect compoſure of countenance, approached cloſe to the body of her huſband, where for ſome time they halted. She then addreſſed thoſe who were near her, with compoſure, and without the leaſt trepidation of voice or change of countenance. She held in her left hand a cocoa nut, in which was a red colour mixed up, and dipping in the fore-finger of her right hand, ſhe marked thoſe near her, to whom ſhe wiſhed to ſhow the laſt act of attention. As at this time I ſtood cloſe to her, ſhe obſerved me attentively, and with the colour marked me on the forehead. She might be about twenty-four or five years of age, a time of life when the bloom of beauty has generally fled the cheek in India; but ſtill ſhe preſerved a ſufficient ſhare to prove that ſhe muſt have been handſome: her figure was ſmall, but elegantly turned; and the form of her hands and arms was particularly beautiful. Her dreſs was a looſe robe of white flowing drapery, that extended from her head to the feet. The place of ſacrifice was higher up on the bank of the river, a hundred yards or more from the ſpot where we now ſtood. The pile was compoſed of dried branches, leaves, and ruſhes, with a door on one ſide, and arched and covered on the top: by the ſide of the door ſtood a man with a lighted brand. From the time the woman appeared, to the taking up of the body to convey it into the pile, might occupy a ſpace of half an hour, which was employed in prayer with the bramins, in attentions to thoſe who ſtood near her, and converſation with her relations. When the body was taken up, ſhe followed cloſe to it, attended by the chief bramin; and when it was depoſited in the pile, ſhe bowed to all around her, and entered without ſpeaking. The moment ſhe entered, the door was cloſed; the fire was put to the combuſtibles, which inſtantly flamed, and immenſe quantities of dried wood and other matters were thrown upon it. This laſt part of the ceremony was accompanied with the ſhouts of the multitude, who now became numerous, and the whole ſeemed a maſs of confuſed rejoicing. For my part, I felt myſelf actuated by very different ſentiments: the event that I had been witneſs to was ſuch, that the minuteſt circumſtance attending it could not be eraſed from my memory; and when the melancholy which had overwhelmed me was ſomewhat abated, I made a drawing of the ſubject.

In other parts of India, as the Carnatic, this dreadful cuſtom is accompanied in the execution of it with ſtill greater horror. It is aſſerted, that they dig a pit, in which is depoſited a large quantity of combuſtible matter, which is ſet on fire, and the body being let down, the victim throws herſelf into the flaming maſs. In other places, a pile is raiſed extremely high, and the body with the wife is placed upon it, and the whole is ſet on fire. Whatever is the means, reaſon and nature ſo revolt at the idea, that, were it not a well-known and well-authenticated circumſtance, it would hardly obtain credit. In truth, I cannot but confeſs, that ſome degree of incredulity was mingled with curioſity, on this occaſion; and the deſire of aſcertaining ſo extraordinary a fact was my greateſt inducement to be a ſpectator.

From Hodge's Travels.

RE-

An Hiſtory of the principal Rivers of Great Britain. Vol. I. An Hiſtory of the Thames, 46 plates. 5l. 7s. boards. *Boydell.*

THIS is a very ingenious and elegant work, the letter-preſs is ſplendid, and the acqua-tinta plates, coloured in imitation of drawings, are highly finiſhed. We ſhall preſent our readers with two extracts, which, if we may judge from what happened to ourſelves, will afford them no ſmall degree of pleaſure and ſatisfaction.

Of Nuneham, the ſeat of Earl Harcourt, he gives the following deſcription of

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

'IT will ſcarcely be believed, (he ſays) that this neſt of ſweets, this hoard of floral beauties, this example of conſummate taſte, occupies little more than an acre of ground: but ſuch is the irregularity of its ſurface, the diſpoſition of its trees, the arrangement of its flowers, the ſucceſſion of its artificial embelliſhments, and the judicious conduct of its ſurrounding path, that it becomes apparently magnified into ample extent. The patches of flowers, and clumps of ſhrubs are of various ſhapes and unequal dimenſions; and its trees are of a growth and figure, which at once harmonize with, and give variety to, the ſcenery of the place. To the buſtos, already mentioned, may be added thoſe of Cato, of Cowley, and of Locke; every one of them alſo has its motto, or its poeſy; and every building its inſcription: all happily ſelected, to heighten or ſuggeſt appropriate ſentiment, and aid the moral influence of the garden. In this deſcription it may, indeed, appear, that the artificial objects are too numerous for the ſmall limits of the ſpot which they adorn: but they are ſo managed as to be ſeen only in unexpected ſucceſſion, or in ſuch careleſs glimpſes of them, as to avoid the leaſt appearance of oſtentation, while they enrich the compoſition of the ſcene. In a flower garden, where all is bloom and fragrance, and where nature appears in her gayeſt embroidery, pictureſque embelliſhment demands all the elegance that art can beſtow: but taſte alone could not have formed the picture which we have ſo inadequately deſcribed. Such an Arcadian ſcene muſt have been produced by an Arcadian imagination. Indeed, ſo much is there of invention and original fancy in the piece, that the genius of poetry could alone compoſe it. Nuneham is a place of the firſt beauty. Nuneham, however, in the courſe of varying opinion, may have an equal: but its flower garden tranſcends all rivalry, and is itſelf alone.'

And of an inſtitution, by Lord and Lady Harcourt, intituled

THE SPINNING FEAST.

'ABOUT twenty years ſince, Lord and Lady Harcourt formed a deſign to encourage induſtry among the women of the pariſh, by giving annual prizes to a certain number of the beſt ſpinners of thread. An idea afterwards ſuggeſted itſelf, that to the prizes of induſtry, might be added prizes of merit; ſo that, at length, the importance of the annual feſtival being increaſed by the addition of its object and influence, it has gradually riſen into an inſtitution, which, beſides its moral intereſt, is a moſt delightful ſpectacle, conſidered merely in the character of village feſtivity. An hiſtory of the day on which it is celebrated, will beſt explain the object and effect of this admirable eſtabliſhment. It muſt, however, be premiſed, that the perſons of either ſex, deſerving the prizes of merit, are named ſometime previous to the feſtival, by an aſſembly of thoſe villagers who have already obtained it. The prizes of induſtry are contended for on the day, and on the ſpot, when and where they are diſtributed. The morning is appropriated to the prizes of merit; the noon to the village banquet; the afternoon to the conteſt for prizes of induſtry; an early portion of the evening to the diſtribution of thoſe prizes; and the ſubſequent part to the feſtivity of all.

'The villagers, who have obtained the prize of merit in former years, followed the rector of the pariſh to the church through the garden; the reſt of them repaired thither by the common approach: and ſuch as had already been ſucceſsful competitors for the prizes of induſtry, wore them on the occaſion. Theſe conſiſt of uſeful articles of dreſs, with ſome ſmall peculiarity of form, or trifling decoration, juſt ſufficient to render the diſtinction conſpicuous. The family attended in the tribune, and the morning-ſervice was celebrated with proper pſalms and leſſons, ſelected for the occaſion. The ſervice was ſucceeded by a diſcourſe from the pulpit, in the cloſe of which the perſons who had been choſen to receive the prize of merit for the year, and who were conſpicuouſly ſeated in the centre of the church, were ſeparately addreſſed by name, with a particular ſpecification of thoſe meritorious actions, and that virtuous

conduct, for which they were elected to receive their preſent diſtinction. At the concluſion of the ſervice, Lord Harcourt deſcended from the tribune, and preſented the uſual prize for the men to the clergyman, who transferred it to the attending claimants. It conſiſts of an hat, whoſe only diſtinction is the buckle that faſtens the band, which has the name of the perſon to whom it is deſtined, with the date of the year, and the words 'Prize of Merit' engraved upon it. The prizes for the women were preſented by Lady Harcourt in the ſame manner; and conſiſt of ſtraw hats decorated with ſcarlet riband. The names of the happy and diſtinguiſhed villagers were then hung up in the church, under the date of the year, among thoſe who at former periods have been found to deſerve that honour.

'The three groups of ſtately elms that range in the park, in front of the houſe, to have been placed there to ſerve the purpoſes of this feſtival. Beneath the ſhade of the central group, dinner was ſerved at two ſeparate tables. The upper table was occupied by thoſe who had at different periods obtained the prize of merit; the lower one was ſet apart for the ſeveral candidates for the prizes of induſtry, both of them plentifully, as well as ſuitably, ſpread; and the happy gueſts arrived in proceſſion, preceded by a village band of muſic, to partake of the banquet prepared for them. All the domeſtic ſervants attended with aſſiduity upon the village gueſts; and that they might not be interrupted in the duties of the feaſt, the family partook of a cold repaſt. Nor is this all; for theſe good people not only appeared to be happy, but at their eaſe; and were rather enlivened into cheerfulneſs, than reſtrained into ſolemnity, by the well-ordered preſence of the noble perſons to whom they were indebted for the felicity of the day.

'At an early hour of the afternoon, all the candidates for the prizes of induſtry aſſemble beneath the trees of the large clump to the left of the houſe. They are divided into claſſes of females, under the age of ſixteen, and above it. The ſpinners were ranged in a ſemi-circle, the elder claſs on the right, and the younger on the left. We then heard the whirring, and ſaw the motion of forty-two wheels, while the various countenances of as many competitors who governed them; a ſcene which, abſtracted from all ideas of moral influence, diſplayed an uncommon example of pictureſque effect. After a certain period, the ſignal is given, when the wheels ſtop, and each ſpinner reels off her thread. Lady Harcourt, herſelf, then collected the ſkeins, and attached the written name of every candidate, carefully folded up, to her reſpective ſkein. Thoſe of the elder claſs were then ſpread on a table, and a maſter weaver determined upon that which was of the beſt manufacture. Lady Harcourt, who continued to preſide, unfolded the name attached to the diſtinguiſhed ſkein, when the ſucceſsful candidate was called, and offered her choice of the various prizes; a ſcarlet knot was, at the ſame time, affixed to a conſpicuous part of her dreſs. This ceremony continues till the prizes are all obtained. The ſkill of the ſecond claſs underwent the ſame trial, and received ſimilar rewards. The far greater part of the competitors obtained prizes according to the merit of their reſpective work, and the few whoſe endeavours were not crowned with ſucceſs, were diſmiſſed with words of encouragement and favour.

'The group of elms, to the right of the houſe, contains a more ſpacious, as well as more regular area than either of the other, and was, on this occaſion, formed into a ball-room of no common elegance. A moveable colonnade incloſed a ſpace of 90 feet long and 45 feet in breadth. It was ſufficient to reſerve the place for the purpoſes to which it is allotted; while the intercolumniations admitted the gazers of the neighbouring villages to view the ceremonies and amuſements of the ſcene. In the centre on the right, was a Doric pavilion, elevated on a flight of ſteps, for the reception of the family, and decorated with alluſive ſymbols, and wreaths of artificial flowers. On the oppoſite ſide of the area was an alcove, where the prizes were hung in gay arrangement, and it afterwards became an orcheſtra for the muſic. At the upper end of the room, the architectural elevation aſſumed a more enriched appearance. Two porticos, with pediments, were connected by an intermediate range of columns, with large China vaſes, filled with flowers, placed between them; and beneath each pediment was a tranſparent emblematic painting repreſenting a Nuneham cottage. The one was a chearful picture of induſtry and plenty; the other, a diſmal ſcene of idleneſs and want: over the latter hung a wreath of nettles, and above the former was ſeen a chaplet of various flowers. The floor of the room was the turf, and its roof the ſpreading branches of the elms that

that grew around. The whole was bright with lamps, arranged in all the elegance of illumination.

'When the evening advanced, Lady Harcourt entered the ball-room, preceded by the muſic, and followed by a proceſſion of the villagers; and, after making a circuit of the area, entered the alcove, where the prizes were diſtributed from her hand, not unaccompanied by graceful gratulations. When this charming ceremony was concluded, the muſic occupied the place, nor did any long interval enſue before the commencement of the dance; and as all perſons of a certain appearance were promiſcuouſly admitted, the cloſing ſcene of the feſtival aſſumed the gay reſemblance of elegant pleaſure. It has been our lot to ſee much of the ſplendid ceremonials of the world: but we never ſaw ſuch a day as this; nor do we ever remember to have beheld ſo much feſtive happineſs, that bore the promiſe of ſo much future good. From the noble inhabitants of Nuneham-houſe, down to the loweſt ſervant in it, all were zealouſly and anxiouſly occupied in attending to the innocent enjoyments and laudable objects of the feſtival.'

The Citizen; being the great Outline of Political Science, and a Defence of the Britiſh Conſtitution, from the Writings of Monteſquieu, Blackſtone, Hume, Paley, Gibbon, &c. &c. 8vo. 3s. ſewed. *Robinſons.*

SPEAKING of the Britiſh Conſtitution, the author ſhews that it was not the reſult of ſyſtem, that its parts were not framed on theoretic obſervations, but that it was the work of time and experience; and, applying this remark to the ſubject of Parliamentary Reform, he labours to prove that we ought to proceed with great caution, and 'that changes ought not to be adventured upon, without a comprehenſive diſcernment of the conſequences, without a knowledge as well of the remote tendency as the immediate deſign.' He illuſtrates his opinion by the following alluſion to changes introduced into the Britiſh Government, probably not foreſeen, certainly not intended, by thoſe who had the greateſt ſhare in the meaſures that led to them;

'When Elizabeth, and her immediate ſucceſſor, applied themſelves to the encouragement and regulation of trade by many wiſe laws, they knew not, that, together with wealth and induſtry, they were diffuſing a conſciouſneſs of ſtrength and independency, which would not long endure, under the forms of a mixed government, the dominion of arbitrary princes.

'When it was debated whether the mutiny act (the law by which the army is governed and maintained) ſhould be temporary or perpetual, little elſe probably occurred to the advocates of an annual bill, than the expediency of retaining a controul over the moſt dangerous prerogative of the crown——the direction and command of a ſtanding army; whereas, in its effect, this ſingle reſervation has altered the whole frame and quality of the Britiſh Conſtitution.—For ſince, in conſequence of the military ſyſtem which prevails in neighbouring and rival nations, as well as on account of the internal exigencies of government, a ſtanding army has become eſſential to the ſafety and adminiſtration of the empire, it enables Parliament, by diſcontinuing this neceſſary proviſion, ſo as to enforce its reſolutions upon any other ſubject, as to render the King's diſſent to a law, which has received the approbation of both Houſes, too dangerous an experiment to be adviſed.—A conteſt between the King and Parliament cannot now be perſevered in, without a diſſolution of the Government.—*Laſtly*, when the Conſtitution conferred upon the crown the nomination to all employments in the public ſervice, the authors of this arrangement were led to it, by the obvious propriety of leaving to a maſter the choice of his ſervants; and by the manifeſt inconveniency of engaging the national council, upon every variety, in thoſe perſonal conteſts which attend elections to places of honour and emolument.—Our anceſtors did not obſerve that this diſpoſition added an influence to the regal office, which, as the number and value of public employments increaſed, would ſuperſede, in a great meaſure, the forms, and change the character of the ancient Conſtitution.—They knew not what the experience and reflection of modern ages has diſcovered, that patronage univerſally is power; that he who poſſeſſes, in a ſufficient degree, the means of gratifying the deſires of mankind, after wealth and diſtinction, by whatever checks and forms his authority may be limited or diſguiſed, will direct the management of public affairs.—Whatever be the mechaniſm of the political engine, he will guide the motion.'

The author then proceeds to ſhew that the Houſe of Commons, even in its preſent incongruous ſtate of repreſentation, is well calculated to anſwer the ends of

its inſtitution, and to collect and expreſs the ſenſe of the nation.

'By annexing the right of voting, for members of the Houſe of Commons, to different qualifications in different places, each order and profeſſion of men in the community become virtually repreſented; that is, men of all orders and profeſſions, ſtateſmen, courtiers, country gentlemen, lawyers, merchants, manufacturers, ſoldiers, ſailors, intereſted in the proſperity, and experienced in the occupation of their reſpective profeſſions, obtain ſeats in Parliament.

'The elections, at the ſame time, are ſo connected with the influence of landed property as to afford a certainty that a conſiderable number of men of great eſtates will be returned to Parliament; and are ſo to modified, that then, the moſt eminent and ſucceſsful in their reſpective profeſſions, are the moſt likely, by their riches, or the weight of their ſtations, to prevail in theſe competitions.

'The number, fortune, and quality of the members; the variety of intereſts and characters amongſt them; above all, the temporary duration of their power, and the change of men which every new election produces, are ſo many ſecurities to the public, as well againſt the ſubjection of their judgements to any external dictation, as againſt the formation of a junto in their own body, ſufficiently powerful to govern their deciſions.

'The repreſentatives are ſo intermixed with the conſtituents, and the conſtituents with the reſt of the people, that they cannot, without a partiality too flagrant to be endured, impoſe any burden upon the ſubject, in which they do not ſhare themſelves; nor ſcarcely can they adopt an advantageous regulation, in which their own intereſts will not participate of the advantage.'

Suite de l'Etat de la France, &c. A Continuation of the State of France. By the Count de Montgaillard. 8vo. 5s. 6d. *Hookham.*

THE following is the ſtate of the forces, and pecuniary reſources of France as given by this very reſpectable author:

'The old troops, not new-caſhiſted, or put into a ſtate of requiſition, ſince the 1ſt of January, 1792, including the old army, as it then ſtood, but of which there remains now ſcarcely a fourth part, amounted to 1,778,000. Of theſe troops never joined their colours, and deſerted: 107,000 periſhed in the military hoſpitals, and fell by the hands of the enemy, or were made priſoners; and 1600 were condemned to death by military commiſſions, or revolutionary tribunals.'

In the enumeration of the above forces, he ſtates that '103,000 men were furniſhed by the city of Paris. 45,000 were ſent into the plains of Châlons, of whom no more than 28,000 returned to their families. Since that period, and in the ſpace of eighteen months, the ſame city furniſhed thirty-one legions, of which ſeventeen were cavalry, each about 1000 ſtrong. Three ſeparate levies, which preceded them, produced 25,500 men, ſucceſſively ſent into La Vendée; and they coſt the Convention 63 millions of livres. Of theſe, 15,000 men were carried into Anjou and Poitou in carts, and other vehicles, with a rapidity to that period unexampled. The firſt requiſition produced in the capital 28,600 men: but one-fifth of them found means of eluding the law by flight, exemptions, or bribery. Paris is perhaps no longer in a condition to renew ſuch ſacrifices; it has already loſt 56,200 men; one ſingle ſection has loſt 2164; and 6000 have returned to the capital, in ſpite of the moſt rigorous orders to the contrary.'

The Count then proceeds to examine the pecuniary reſources of the Convention; and he tells us, that in April laſt the value of all the property, declared by various decrees to belong to the nation, was eſtimated at nearly eight thouſand millions of livres; that the public buildings, &c. included in this eſtimate, but appropriated to the uſe of the municipal bodies and clubs throughout France, being thrown out of the account becauſe they cannot be converted into money, as they are reſerved for the uſe of the public in their preſent ſtate, there would remain for ſale to the amount of ſix thouſand two hundred millions of livres;—that the incumbrances on the eſtates ſeized by the nation, excluſive of thoſe that affected the church lands, were not ſhort of one thouſand nine hundred millions, which muſt be paid to the creditors, unleſs it ſhould be judged more expedient to trample on juſtice, and to defraud them. Such are the ways and means of the Convention; while the national debt, he aſſerts, cannot be eſtimated at leſs than fifteen thouſand millions of livres, ſo that the means for paying off the debt fall ſhort of it by eight thouſand eight hundred millions, or upwards of L. 344,000,000 Sterling. He admits, however, that the preſent rulers of France poſſeſs ways and means, which are peculiar to themſelves, of diſcharging their debt; they have, he ſays, an expeditious way of cancelling a debt, by cutting off the head of a public creditor. The public creditors, he ſays, who were 260,000 in number, have been reduced by means which make juſtice and humanity ſhudder, to 90,000, and of them none can get their dividends paid who do not produce a certificate of their patriotiſm, which is given only to thoſe whoſe demands are for ſmall ſums.

Roman

Roman Converſations, or a ſhort Deſcription of the Antiquities of Rome, and the Characters of many eminent Romans, intermixed with References to Claſſical Authors, and various Moral Reflections; in a ſuppoſed Converſation between ſome Engliſh Gentlemen at Rome. Vol. II. 8vo. 6s. in boards. *Brown.*

Q. Mutius Scævola was a diſtinguiſhed character in thoſe times, during which Rome ſuffered ſo much from the ambition and ferocity of Marius and Sylla, with their cruel aſſociates. A tribute is here paid to his merit, intermingled with reflections on thoſe awful ſcenes of ſlaughter and deva[illegible] then exhibited on the great ſtage of the Roman empire. 'In ſuch perilous times,' it is obſerved by Crito, concerning Scævola, 'the more good he did to others, the better was he enabled to bear adverſity himſelf.'

'The time was now come, when the miſery which Rome had inflicted on other nations, was to be retaliated on herſelf. *The cup of the anger of the Lord* had been carried round many regions, and this city was now to drink the dregs of it herſelf.—O my dear fellow-ſtudents, in turning over the hiſtory of the world, both ancient and modern, what do we find to be in a great meaſure its contents? Alas! wickedneſs, and the puniſhment thereof: *ſcelera et pœnas*. But in peruſing the diſmal hiſtories of the puniſhment of wicked and hardened nations, we muſt not wonder if we ſhould ſometimes find ſeveral *good* men partaking of the calamities, and ſuffering with their countries. In the preſent condition of things, and cloſe connection of mankind one with another, ſuch accidents ſeem inevitable.—Let me correct my words. It is wrong to call theſe events *accidental*, as *Providence* ſeems often by the ſame means, and at the ſame time, to puniſh ſome men, to correct others, and to try, and by ſuch trials exalt the characters of the good.'

Of Cato Uticenſis he ſays, 'There is not, in the whole Roman hiſtory, any virtuous character which has been ſo highly celebrated either by orators and poets, or by philoſophers and hiſtorians, as that of Cato. *Finxit illum ipſa natura, ad honeſtatem, gravitatem, temperantiam, magnitudinem animi, juſtitiam ad omnes, denique virtutes magnum hominem et excelſum.* (Nature herſelf formed him to probity and honour, to juſtice, temperance, gravity, fortitude; in fine, to all the virtues of high and exalted characters). This moſt noble natural diſpoſition he greatly ſtrengthened and improved, by ſetting his aim always on one moſt noble object; for the ſingle object of all the labours of his life, was to ſuſtain himſelf always in what appeared to him the moſt exalted degree of virtue.'——

'The character of Cato is ſo famous, that in forming a character of Roman worthies, his name could not, with any propriety, be omitted. At the ſame time, the truth of hiſtory will oblige us to own, that in ſeveral particulars this great man was much miſled. On the other hand, how many circumſtances are there to be found in his hiſtory, which evidently ſhew, as Tully obſerves, *quod hæc omnia non à naturâ Catonis erant*, (that all theſe did not take their riſe from Cato's natural temper). And when he farther enquires for a cauſe to which moſt of the ſtains that diſgraced him may be attributed, he replies, as Cicero had done before him, probably to his inſtructors the ſtoics; for in their writings moſt of theſe capital defects are deſcribed as moral excellencies.—How much is it indeed to be wiſhed, *ut ad illos magiſtros aliqua te fortuna, Cato, cum illa natura detuliſſet!* (that with ſuch naturally good diſpoſitions, ſome happy chance had thrown thee, Cato, into the hands of different inſtructors)!'

He then introduces the character of M. T. Cicero.—'It ſeems a conſiderable mark, not only of goodneſs of heart, but alſo of ſtrength of underſtanding, and a very proper method for improving both theſe qualities, if, in the conſideration of any great and exalted character, the ſtudent obſerves indeed its defects, yet dwells not too much on them, nor views them in the moſt unfavourable light; but candidly conſiders the whole character together, and then applies his attention more peculiarly to thoſe parts which are the moſt noble and beautiful. The character of Cicero has, for many ages, drawn the attention, and, *generally ſpeaking*, the admiration of mankind. In diſcourſing on ſuch a character, let us be as ſilent as poſſible to its imperfections; and, according to the general ſcope and intention of theſe our Roman converſations, endeavour to improve ourſelves as much as we can, by diligently ſtudying its real excellencies. Let us conſider, that though Cicero lived in one of the moſt corrupt ages that ever was known, yet he was totally free from any ſtain either of avarice or luxurious debauchery.'

In part ſecond of his diſſertation on Cicero, we find the following reflections: 'What ought to be the *principal* wiſh of a young man who has already had the happineſs to be entered into a courſe of good education? For what bleſſing may we ſuppoſe *Tully* to have principally petitioned in his youth at the ſhrine of Apollo, or of this his favourite patroneſs Minerva, or any other of thoſe Deities, who were imagined to preſide over the human mind?

'*For the ſpirit of perpetual induſtry.*

'Studious diligence (I muſt be underſtood to mean that of the beſt kind,) is one of the great principles of growth to the human underſtanding, which it is continually forming, filling, and extending; correcting and healing what is amiſs in it, guarding it from many harms, from unneceſſary worldly cares, ſupplying its defects, and exalting its excellencies. Such is it to the mind; nor is it really an enemy to the health and body; eſpecially when attended by temperance and moderate exerciſe, each

each of which greatly ſtrengthens our mental as well as corporeal frame. If we look on the life of Cicero, we ſhall find it filled with labour and induſtry. His indefatigable application far ſurpaſſes what we generally conceive of ſtudy, and ſeems almoſt incredible. It is ſaid, that the time which other young men of his age gave up to pleaſure and diverſion, was by him regularly added to his ſtudious hours. It is ſaid that he never gave up one leiſure hour to abſolute idleneſs; all the intervals of his great labours being generally applied to ſome other purpoſe. This ſtudious diligence was the means indiſpenſably neceſſary to qualify even ſuch a genius as *Tully* for his great literary attainments. Let us not be diſheartened by this conſideration; but let us rather reflect with pleaſure that Cicero, by this moſt careful management of his time, made every day produce ſome valuable addition to the vaſt fund of his knowledge.'

The Works of Soame Jenyns, Eſq; in Four Volumes: including ſeveral Pieces never before publiſhed; to which are prefixed ſhort Sketches of the Hiſtory of the Author's Family, and alſo of his Life. By Charles Naiſon Cole, Eſq; Crown 8vo. 4 vols. 16s. boards. *Cadell.*

The new pieces contained in theſe volumes are, one or two ſhort poems; thoughts on the national debt; and ſome curſory obſervations on ſeveral paſſages in the New Teſtament.

Of the laſt, we give the following ſpecimen:

'Mark viii. 38. *Whoſoever, therefore, ſhall be aſhamed of me, and of my words, in this adulterous and ſinful generation, of him alſo ſhall the Son of Man be aſhamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father.*'

'Many and ſevere are the threats which we find denounced by Chriſt againſt hypocrites; that is, againſt thoſe who pretended an extraordinary ſanctity in their manners and converſation, without having any true ſenſe of religion or morality in their hearts. The words before us are a threat, likewiſe, againſt hypocrites of a very different ſort; thoſe who pretend to be more profligate than they really are, and therefore may be properly called hypocrites in wickedneſs. Theſe are much more numerous in the preſent times, and perhaps much more miſchievous than the former; as thoſe do honour to religion and virtue by their pretences to them, theſe affront them by an open diſavowal. Thoſe make others better than themſelves, and theſe worſe, by their example. We meet with this ridiculous and criminal kind of hypocriſy every day; we ſee men affecting to be guilty of vices for which they have no reliſh, of profligacy for which they have not conſtitutions, and of crimes which they have not courage to perform. They lay claim to the honour of cheating, at the time they are cheated, and endeavour to paſs for knaves, when, in fact, they are but fools. Theſe are the offenders of whom Chriſt will be aſhamed when he cometh in the glory of his Father; which will be a dreadful but juſt puniſhment, and a proper retaliation of that fooliſh and impious modeſty, which induced them to be aſhamed of him and his word, in complaiſance to a ſinful and adulterous generation; and to be leſs afraid of incurring the diſpleaſure of the beſt of all Beings, than the profane ridicule of the worſt of men.'

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POETRY.

POETRY.

ODE

FOR THE YEAR M,DCC,XCV.

BY HENRY JAMES PYE, ESQ. POET LAUREAT.

AGAIN the ſwift revolving hours,
Bring January's frozen car;
Still Diſcord on the nations low'rs,
Still reigns the iron power of War.
Huſh'd be awhile the tumult's ſtorm,
Awhile let Concord's milder form
Glide gently o'er each ſmiling plain,
While, as they weave the myrtle wreath,
The ſportive Loves and Graces breathe
The Hymeneal ſtrain.

From parent Elbe's high trophied ſhore,
Whence our illuſtrious chiefs of yore
Brought that bleſt code of laws their ſons revere,
And bade the glorious fabric flouriſh here,
The Royal Virgin comes—ye gales
Auſpicious! fill the ſwelling ſails.
And while ye gently curl the azure deep,
Let every ruder blaſt in ſilence ſleep!
For not from Afric's golden ſands,
Or either India's glowing lands,
Have e'er the favourite Nereids brought
A prize to us ſo dear, a bark ſo richly fraught.

Bright Maid, to thy expecting eyes,
When Albion's cliffs congenial riſe,
No foreign forms thy looks ſhall meet,
Thine ear no foreign accents greet.
Here ſhall thy breaſt united tranſports prove
Of kindred fondneſs and connubial love.
O that amid the nuptial flow'rs we twine,
Our hands the Olive's ſober leaves might join!
Thy preſence teach the ſtorm of war to ceaſe,
Diſarm the battle's rage, and charm the world to peace!

Yet if the ſtern vindictive foe
Inſulting aim the hoſtile blow;
Britain, in martial terrors dight,
Lifts high th' avenging ſword, and courts the fight:
On every ſide, behold her ſwains
Croud eager from her fertile plains;
With breaſts undaunted, lo, they ſtand,
Firm bulwark of their native land;
And, proud, her floating caſtles round,
The guardians of her happy coaſt,
Bid their terrific thunder ſound
Diſmay, to Gallia's ſcatter'd hoſt:
While ſtill Britannia's navies reign
Triumphant o'er the ſubject main.

THE CONSOLATION.

FROM THE LOOKER-ON.

SAY, Henry, ſhould a man of mind
Sigh o'er his brittle cruſt;
Or grieve, becauſe it is not join'd
To fibres more robuſt?

Look round with philoſophic ken,
Through Nature's works below,
From very atoms up to men,
You'll find it order'd ſo;

That much of all we choiceſt hold,
Admire with one acclaim,
Is of a delicater mould,
And of a feebler frame.

Look at that bird of gloſſieſt wings,
Yet ſweeter taſte than plume,
That ſcuds, that murmurs, ſips, and ſings,
And feaſts upon perfume.

Look at the roſe his bill invades
With eager wanton ſtrife;
On what a ſlender ſtem it fades
And bluſhes out its life.

Look at bent lilies as you walk,
How elegantly thin;
Yet well that fragrance from their ſtalk
Proclaims the power within.

Look at the ſex whoſe form may vaunt
More grace than bird or roſe;
What fine infirmities enchant,
What frailty charms in thoſe.

Examine men, the world around,
That ſoar with gen'rous aim;
How few with rugged ſtrength abound
In fibre, or in frame!

Great ſouls, with energetic thought,
Wear out their ſhell of clay;
Yet at each crevice light is caught
Till all is mental day.

Then, Henry, let no man of mind
Sigh o'er his brittle cruſt;
Or grieve becauſe it is not join'd
To fibres more robuſt.

DESCRIPTION OF

A TRAVELLER BEWILDERED IN THE SNOW *.

MARK on that road, whoſe unobſtructed courſe
With long white line th' unburied furze divides,
Yon ſolitary horſeman urge his way.
He not unmindful of the brooding ſtorm,
Ere yet by ſtrong neceſſity compell'd,
Of preſſing occupation he exchang'd
The blazing hearth, the firm compacted roof,
For naked foreſts and uncertain ſkies,
With wiſe precaution arm'd himſelf to meet
The Winter's utmoſt rage. In ſilken folds
Twice round his neck the handkerchief he twin'd,
His legs he caſed in boots of mighty ſize,
And oft experienc'd ſtrength; warm'd thro' and thro'
In chimney corner; and with gloſſy face
Prepar'd deſcending torrents to repel;

* From 'Walks in a Foreſt,' by the Rev. William Maſon, lately publiſhed.

A.

As roll the round drops from the silvery leaf
Of rain-besprinkled cole-wort, or the plumes
Of sea-gull, sporting in the broken wave.
Then o'er his limbs the stout great-coat he drew,
With collar rais'd aloft, and three-fold cape,
Sweep below sweep in wide concentric curves,
Low down his back descendant; on its breast
The folds lie cross'd, and in its double hole,
Each straining button fix'd; erect he stood,
Like huge portmanteau on its end upright.
Fearless he sallied forth; nor yet disdain'd
The heart'ning draught from tankard copp'd with foam,
By host officious, to the horse-block borne
With steady hand, and eloquently prais'd,
While lingering on the step his eye he turn'd
To every wind, and mark'd th' embattled clouds
Ranging their squadrons in the fallen East.
How fares he now? Caught on the middle waste,
Where no deep wood its hospitable gloom
Extends; no friendly thicket bids him cover
Beneath its tangled roof; no lonely tree
Prompts him to seek its leeward side; and cleave,
Fixed and immoveable, compact,
To the bare trunk, if haply it may ward
The driving tempest; with bewilder'd haste
Onward he comes. 'Hither direct thy speed;
'This sheltering wood.' He hears not! mark his head
Oblique presented to the storm; his hand
Envelop'd deep beneath th' inverted cuff,
With ineffectual grasp strives to confine
His ever flapping hat: the cold drench'd glove
Clings round th' imprison'd fingers. O'er his knees
His coat's broad skirt, scanty now prov'd too late,
He pulls and pulls, impatient, mutt'ring wrath
At pilfering taylors. Baffled and perplex'd,
With joints benumb'd and aching, scarce he holds [toil
The rein, scarce guides the steed with breathless
O'erpower'd, and shrinking sideways from the blast.
Mark how that steed, with icy mane and head
Depress'd, and quivering ears now forward bent,
Now backward swiftly thrown, and offering still
Their convex penthouse to the shifting gale;
Mark how that steed on indurated balls
Of snow uprais'd, like school-boy rear'd on stilts,
Labours unbalanc'd; the fallacious prop,
Now this, now that, breaks short; with sudden jerk
He sinks, half-falling, and recovering quick
On legs of length unequal, staggers along.
Trembles his rider, while the snow upheaves
In drifts athwart his course projected broad,
Or o'er th' uncover'd gravel rattling sweeps,
Caught up in sudden eddies, and aloft,
Like smoke, in suffocating volumes whirl'd.
The road he quits unwary, wandering wide
O'er the bleak waste, midst brushwood wrapt in snow,
Down rough declivities and fractur'd banks,
Thro' miry plashes, cavities unseen,
And bogs of treacherous surface: till afar
From all that meets his recollection borne
Dismay'd by hazards scarce escap'd, and dread
Of heavier perils imminent, he stands
Dismounted and aghast. Now evening draws,
Her gathering shades around; the tempest fierce
Drives fiercer. Chill'd within him sinks his heart,
Panting with quick vibrations. The wild blast
Appall'd he hears; thinks on his wife and babes
And doubts if ever he shall see them more.
But comfort is at hand; the skies have spent
In that last gust their fury. From the west
The setting sun with horizontal gleam
Cleaves the dense clouds, and thro' the golden breach
Strikes the feathed oak, whose branches peel'd and bare,
'Gainst the retiring darkness of the storm,
With fiery radiance glow. The Traveller views
The well-known landmark, lifts to Heaven his eye
Swiming with gratitude, the friendly track
Regains, and speeds exulting to his home.

THE WISH.

BY MR HARRISON.

GIVE me, kind Heav'n, the middle state;
Not meanly poor, not proudly great!
I ask no wealth, no pow'r I crave;
Let me nor have, nor be, a slave:
O'er no man let me covet rule,
Let no man e'er make me his tool.
The duty I to others owe,
Teach thou my rebel heart to know;
Yet let me never anxious be,
For duty others owe to me:
But think, e'er I too much expect,
The higher duties I neglect.
Bless me with health, to earn my food;
With wisdom, to discern what's good.
Less let me others errors mind,
Than those within myself I find;
Averse to make their foibles known,
As careful to conceal my own:
And, lest I do another wrong,
Restrain the license of my tongue!
The ills, as mortal, I must share,
Make me, without repining, bear;
Convinc'd, the sinful cause is mine,
The merciful chastisement thine.
On ev'ry fellow-mortal's woe,
Let me a ready tear bestow;
Nor be so much of need afraid,
As not to give my little aid,
When weeping Want, with trembling hand,
Makes, in thy name, it's meek demand.
When Innocence gives Laughter birth,
Let me not check the harmless mirth;
Yet heed the voice, that kindly cries—
'Be merry, mortals, and be wise.'
O gracious Heav'n, these blessings give!
I care not where, but how, I live!

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT;

BEING THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Dec. 30. This day his Majefty came to the Houfe of Peers, and being in his royal robes feated on the throne with the ufual folemnity, Sir Francis Molyneux, gentleman ufher of the black rod, was fent with a meffage from his Majefty to the Houfe of Commons, commanding their attendance in the Houfe of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, his Majefty was pleafed to make the following moft gracious fpeech:

'*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

'AFTER the uniform experience which I have had of your zealous regard for the intereits of my people, it is a great fatisfaction to me, to recur to your advice and affiftance at a period, which calls for the full exertion of your energy and wifdom.

'Notwithftanding the difappointment and reverfe, which we have experienced in the courfe of the laft campaign, I retain a firm conviction of the neceffity of perfifting in a vigorous profecution of the juft and neceffary war in which we are engaged.

'You will, I am confident, agree with me, that it is only from firmnefs and perfeverance that we can hope for a reftoration of peace on fafe and honourable grounds, and for the prefervation and permanent fecurity of our deareft intereits.

'In confidering the fituation of our enemies, you will not fail to obferve, that the efforts which have led to their fucceffes, and the unexampled means by which alone thofe efforts could have been fupported, have produced among themfelves the pernicious effects which were to be expected; and that every thing which has paffed in the interior of the country, has fhewn the progreffive and rapid decay of their refources, and the inftability of every part of that violent and unnatural fyftem, which is equally ruinous to France, and incompatible with the tranquillity of other nations.

'The States General of the United Provinces have, nevertheleis, been led, by a fenfe of prefent difficulties, to enter into negociations for peace with the party now prevailing in that unhappy country. No eftabliihed government or independant ftate can, under the prefent circumftances, derive real fecurity from fuch negociations: On our part, they could not be attempted, without facrificing both our honour and fafety to an enemy whofe chief animofity is avowedly directed againft thefe kingdoms.

'I have therefore continued to ufe the moft effectual means for the further augmentation of my forces: and I fhall omit no opportunity of concerting the operations of the next campaign with fuch of the reft of the powers of Europe, as are impreffed with the fame fenfe of the neceffity of vigour and exertion. I place the fulleft reliance on the valour of my forces, and on the affection and public fpirit of my people, in whofe behalf I am contending, and whofe fafety and happinefs are the objects of my conftant foliicitude.

'The local importance of Corfica, and the fpirited efforts of its inhabitants to deliver themfelves from the yoke of France, determined me not to withhold the protection which they fought for; and I have fince accepted the crown and fovereignty of that country, according to an inftrument, a copy of which I have directed to be laid before you.

'I have great pleafure in informing you, that I have concluded a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, with the United States of America, in which it has been my object to remove, as far poffible, all grounds of jealoufy and mifunderftanding, and to improve an intercourfe beneficial to both countries. As foon as the ratifications fhall have been exchanged, I will direct a copy of this treaty to be laid before you, in order, that you may conlider the propriety of making fuch provifions as may appear neceffary for carrying it into effect.

'I have the greateft fatisfaction in announcing to you the happy event of the conclufion of a treaty for the marriage of my fon, the Prince of Wales, with the Princefs Caroline, daughter of the Duke of Brunfwick: the conftant proofs of your affection for my perfon and family perfuade me, that you will participate in the fentiments I feel on an occafion fo intereiting to my domeftic happinefs, and that you will enable me to make provifion for fuch an eftablifhment, as you may think fuitable to the rank and dignity of the heir apparent to the crown of thefe kingdoms.

'*Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons.*

'The conlideratious which prove the neceffity of a vigorous profecution of the war,

war, will, I doubt not, induce you to make ſuitable and ample proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice, the eſtimates for which, I have directed to be laid before you. While I regret the neceſſity of large additional burthens on my ſubjects, it is a juſt conſolation and ſatisfaction to me to obſerve the ſtate of our credit, commerce, and reſources, which is the natural reſult of the continued exertions of induſtry, under the protection of a free and well-regulated government.

'*My Lords, and Gentlemen,*

'A juſt ſenſe of the bleſſings now ſo long enjoyed by this country will, I am perſuaded, encourage you to make every effort, which can enable you to tranſmit thoſe bleſſings unimpaired to your poſterity.

'I entertain a confident hope that, under the protection of Providence, and with conſtancy and perſeverance on our part, the principles of ſocial order, morality, and religion, will ultimately be ſucceſsful; and that my faithful people will find their preſent exertions and ſacrifices rewarded by the ſecure and permanent enjoyment of tranquillity at home, and by the deliverance of Europe from the greateſt danger with which it has been threatened ſince the eſtabliſhment of civilized ſociety.'

On his Majeſty's retiring, the Houſe proceeded to the ceremonial of introducing the following new created Peers, viz. Lords Baron Ollory, Clive, Meydin, Wenlow, Lifford, Mulgrave, Selſea, Curzon, and Yarborough.

Their Lordſhips then proceeded to take into conſideration his Majeſty's moſt gracious ſpeech, which being read, firſt by the Lord Chancellor, and ſecond time by the Clerk at the table,

Earl of Camden roſe to move the addreſs. His Lordſhip prefaced his motion by obſerving, that he would not obtrude himſelf on the attention of the Houſe, were it not at a period ſo momentous and critical, as called upon every public man, freely and candidly, to ſtate his ſentiment of the national affairs. In his mind their ſituation was ſuch, as required the utmoſt vigour and activity from all its members, in defence of the ſtate; and in this view, the exertions could not be directed with better effect than in ſupport of the juſt and neceſſary war the nation was engaged in, and which was very properly recommended in the ſpeech from the throne. Before he proceeded further on this head, his Lordſhip adverted to that part of the ſpeech, which intimated the approaching nuptials of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales; and on this, he was confident, there could ever be but one opinion among their Lordſhips; an event which promiſed ſuch an increaſe of happineſs to the Royal Family, and tended to give ſtability to the ſucceſſion in the illuſtrious Houſe of Brunſwick to the throne, muſt excite the moſt pleaſing ſenſations in every well-wiſher of his country. Recurring then to his former obſervations on the ſituation of the country, his Lordſhip avowed himſelf decidedly of opinion, that the war ſhould be proſecuted with unremitting vigour, and that far from being diſheartened at the late ill ſucceſſes, (which he hoped would prove only temporary) they ought to be a ſpur and an incentive to us to carry on the conteſt againſt the common enemy with redoubled energy. In this view, when the relative ſituation of the two countries was impartially conſidered, he ſaid it would be found that Great Britain had a decided advantage; her reſources were numerous and flouriſhing, and her credit perhaps greater than at any former period; for a proof of this, he had only to mention the circumſtances of the late loans. On the other hand, compare this with the ſituation of the enemy, diſtracted by internal convulſions, and riſking every thing on external exertions, far beyond its ſtrength, and which therefore neceſſarily could not continue long, without credit, and its reſources at the loweſt ebb. Its great engine of finance, the aſſignats, bore at this moment a diſcount of 75 per cent. A nation making ſuch preternatural efforts muſt, and at no very diſtant period, be deſtroyed by thoſe exertions. He was aware that ſuch of their Lordſhips as profeſſed to entertain different ſentiments, would exert their ingenuity in exhibiting a contraſt to the faithful picture he had delineated, and urge ſuch a ſituation as a ground for a ſpeedy pacification; but ſuch, in his idea, even if the enemy were in a diſpoſition to treat, even if the peace then made could be relied on, as certain for a day, would be an improper ſituation for this country to make overtures of peace to France. That haughty and inſolent people, deeming that our late partial ill ſucceſſes had either diſheartened us, or reduced us to ſuch a low ebb as to oblige us to crouch to them, would riſe in their demands and exactions to ſuch a degree, as would not only be inadmiſſible, but render us deſpicable in the eyes

eyes of all Europe. A peace so patched up, even on the best terms France might allow us, would be found an armed truce; a relapse of hostilities would in a short time entire, which would render it necessary to renew the war on much worse terms. Impressed with these ideas, and considering the great and important issue at stake, which involved no less than every thing dear to men in civilized society, he deemed it his duty, as far as his influence would extend, to aid and support the just and necessary contest in which we were involved, in such a manner (as was best suggested in his Majesty's speech) as would be the most likely to secure a lasting and honourable peace. He then moved the Address, which (as is generally the case on those occasions) was a faithful and affectionate echo of the speech, and fraught with the assurances of the most decided support of the measures adopted by government.

Lord Ponsonby in a short but pertinent speech, seconded the address.

Earl Guildford, stated his disapprobation of what had been advanced by the noble Earl, and of the general conduct of Government with respect to the present war. He observed, that with respect to that part of the Address which relates to the approaching nuptials of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, no person could more cordially assent to it than he did, not only regarding it as a national benefit, but on account of the advantage and the increase of happiness it must confer on his Royal Highness himself, on whose private character the noble Earl took an opportunity to dwell in strains of the warmest eulogium. At this point his Lordship was sorry to say that his support of the proposed address must end; he expected, after the system of defeat, disappointment, and mortification, which ministers had experienced ever since the subject was last agitated among their Lordships, would have induced them to bring forward such an address as might be unanimously adopted; but, by the present, he saw that the same ruinous and destructive system was meant to be persevered in, and, if possible, with encreased energy, to such measures he must offer his protest. The statements which had been made, respecting the relative situation of the countries, were not founded in facts, but suggested to the noble Earl either by ignorance or misrepresentation. As to the situation of the enemy, it was plainly enough told, he thought, by its effects; and as for the pompous description of the affairs of this country brought forward by him, it would have applied to a picture which he heard given about three years since, in another House, with a colouring or eloquence which perhaps was never exceeded (alluding to Mr Pitt's celebrated speech on opening the budget of 1792). Our situation then, he said, might have corresponded with the noble Earl's eulogium; but, by the disastrous events which had since been brought about, by the misconduct or wickedness of ministers, he was sorry to be obliged to predict, that the flattering description at the period he alluded to, was the *funeral knell* of British commerce and credit, and the *acme* of her financial prosperity. We were never again to look for such another statement. With what prospect of success could the war now be prosecuted; when in a former campaign, with every advantage on our side, with our people united at home in support of the war, when Toulon and the West India colonies of the enemy were in our possession, when the loyalists were numerous and in force in La Vendee, when Lyons was in the hands of insurgents, and Marseilles in a state of insurrection; when, with all these advantages, together with their Flemish and German frontier fortresses being possessed by our allies, we were not able not only to depress, but to do any thing decessive against France; what more could be expected, when the situations of the two countries were completely and decidedly reversed? But granting that the present was not a proper moment for the cessation of hostilities, and such might be the opinion of a majority of their Lordships, yet in that case he wished, and would endeavour, out of evil to extract good, he would propose that the internal concerns of France should be clearly and openly avowed not to be the object of the war. Drawing towards a conclusion, his Lordship took occasion to allude to the conduct of ministers, in endeavouring to have it imagined that serious plots had been in agitation against the constitution and established form of government of the country, and had even gone so far as to render both Houses of Parliament a sort of vehicle for proclaiming such ideas to the public; but he and the noble Lords who acted with him, had repeatedly asserted the futility of such notions; and the recent verdicts of English juries, and conduct of Government in enlarging the majority of those alledged criminals, with-

out proſecution, had verified their predictions. His Lordſhip ſaid, that for the ſake of procuring as much unanimity as poſſible, he would make his preſent amendment ſimilar to that offered laſt year. He then moved an amendment, the ſubſtance of which was, a promiſe of ſupport to his Majeſty in proſecution of the war, in ſuch a manner as may be conducive to a ſpeedy and honourable peace; and praying that the internal concerns of France may be no obſtacle to ſuch a pacification.

The Earl of Morton ſpoke againſt the amendment as recommended; a meaſure only to be adopted in the laſt extremity of diſtreſs and ruin.

The Earl of Kinnoul warmly ſupported the addreſs.

The Earl of Derby ſupported the amendment. While ſpeaking of the circumſtances of the late campaign, he touched upon the acquiſition of Corſica, which, ſo far from being an advantage, would be found in effect to be the reverſe, as requiring an immenſe force and expence to retain it, even if this could be done; but in one point of view it certainly was an advantage, according to the preſent ſyſtem of miniſters, by enabling them to extend their patronage and influence in the creation of a number of places for the government of that kingdom, which ſo far from being defrayed by Corſica, the entire expence, he predicted, would fall on the ſhoulders of Britain.

Earl Spencer diſagreed with the noble Earl in his opinion of Corſica; it was a valuable acquiſition, particularly in a naval point of view; nor did he think it would be expenſive to this country.

The Earl of Mansfield took a very extenſive argument to ſhew the extreme danger of ſuffering the northern boundary of France to be extended to the Rhine, with all the north-weſt coaſt of Spain, and all the maritime part of Biſcay. He therefore hoped the war would be purſued with all poſſible energy and vigour, as abſolutely neceſſary to be continued until France was reduced within her ancient limits, and had ſettled a government with which England could treat.

Lord Lauderdale remarked with much aſperity on the King of Pruſſia, the treaty with Auſtria, &c. &c. The confederacy entered into by this country, was a rotten and tottering one, and our money was given to the King of Pruſſia for the moſt iniquitous purpoſe, viz. for ſubduing the unhappy Poles, and the odium and expence fell to the ſhare of the country. All England, he ſaid, had been ranſacked for ſpies, and treaſon hunted after in every corner. The noble Lord related that humorous ſtory of Tom Jones, Partridge, and the King of the Gypſies, and wiſhed moſt ſincerely, that his Majeſty's miniſters and their ſpies had been judged by ſo upright a judge as the Gypſy King.

Lord Grenville, at great length, vindicated the meaſures which miniſters had adopted in the conduct of the war. His leading arguments were, the impoſſibility of making peace with the preſent exiſting government of France; the ſtate of anarchy and diſturbance in which the country was involved; that the very great efforts which France had made were impoſſible to be continued; and that in the end ſhe muſt be completely exhauſted; while on our part nothing was wanting but perſeverance and a vigorous proſecution of the war. His Lordſhip continued to remark on the deſtruction of morality, religion, virtue, and in ſhort of every thing that ought to be moſt dear to a civilized ſtate.

Marquis Lanſdowne and the Duke of Bedford ſpoke in favour of the amendment, ridiculing the idea that we had no power in France to treat with, or that we would incur any diſgrace by propoſing terms of peace, which, they ſaid, it was the intereſt of France not to reject.

On the queſtion for the addreſs, there appeared, Contents 95
Proxies 12—107
Non-contents 13
Majority for the addreſs ——94.

Lord Stanhope moved that the Houſe be ſummoned for Tueſday next, on which day he ſhould move their Lordſhips to the following effect:—'That this country has no juſt right to interfere with the internal government of France.'

The Houſe was ordered to be ſummoned.

INTERNAL GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE.

Jan. 3. Earl Stanhope roſe to make his promiſed motion on this ſubject. He prefaced it with a ſpeech of ſome length, which conſiſted principally of details relative to the immenſe ſtrength of the republic, as well with reſpect to its internal reſources, as to its military concerns. He ſaid, that miniſters held out a ſyſtem of deluſion to the people of this country reſpecting France, and that all their efforts were directed to place that nation in the moſt unfavourable point of view. With reſpect to what concerned the war, their miſrepreſentations of the ſituation and ſtrength of the French were extreme indeed;

deed; but he was prepared to ſhew, by incontrovertible proofs, that France was at this moment not only ſtronger than all her enemies united, but even ſtronger than at any period ſince the revolution. A nation poſſeſſed of ſuch unexampled ſtrength, and in the midſt of ſuch a career of ſucceſs, unparalled in the page of hiſtory, it was ridiculous and abſurd to imagine that its enemies would be ever able to compete with or reſiſt; much leſs able to dictate an internal government to; the idea was not in any caſe more wicked than ridiculous in the preſent inſtance. He would, therefore, as well on account of our national character for juſtice, as for the credit of the underſtandings of his countrymen, propoſe a reſolution, which he conjured their Lordſhips to adopt, as not only a matter of ſtrict national right and juſtice, but which he hoped would prove one ſtep towards the attainment of that very neceſſary and deſireable event, a pacification. He then moved a reſolution, importing, 'That this country ought not, nor will it interfere with the internal government of France, and that it be expedient explicitely to declare the ſame.'

The Earl of Mansfield, in a ſpeech of ſome length, oppoſed the motion. He obſerved, that no political writer whatever had advanced ſuch a propoſition as that brought forward by the noble Earl. It certainly was in ſome circumſtances not only juſtifiable but proper to interfere in the internal concerns of another country. He acknowledged, that he wiſhed for the reſtoration of the French monarchy. Such an event would not only tend to the tranquillity and advantage of this country, but of all Europe. Much might be ſaid of the deſpotiſm of monarchies; but no monarchy whatever diſplayed ſuch tyranny as did the democratic deſpotiſm of France, which militated againſt all principles, laws, order, and religion; and that *non-deſcript* form of government was not more unlike the monarchical form, than it was of all the forms of real republican governments that ever exiſted. From ſuch a ſyſtem it was impoſſible to expect any honour or ſecurity. With theſe impreſſions, he certainly muſt reſiſt the propoſition of the noble Earl.

The Marquis of Lanſdowne, in a ſhort, but maſterly and eloquent ſpeech, ſupported the obſervations of his noble friend. He expatiated on the neceſſity and deſireableneſs of a ſpeedy peace; but ſaid, that in ſome points he did not go ſo far as the noble Earl. The preſent propoſition was of ſuch a vague and indefinite nature, as to admit of various conſtructions: he therefore wiſhed it was withdrawn.

Earl Stanhope then perſiſting in preſſing his motion, their Lordſhips divided, and there appeared,

Againſt Lord Stanhope's propoſition	61
For it (himſelf)	1
Majority	60

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Dec. 30. On returning from the Houſe of Peers, the Speaker having diſrobed and reſumed the chair, ſeveral members were ſworn in, who were newly elected, and took their ſeats accordingly.

Mr Sheridan, after apologizing for the ſeeming violation of the accuſtomed forms of the Houſe, of which he might be accuſed for obtruding a different matter, aſſured the Houſe, that it was not from any diſpoſition he felt to defer the reſpectful Addreſs which was to be propoſed to his Majeſty, for his gracious ſpeech from the throne; but that he felt and deemed it his duty, as a member of that Houſe, to maintain and enforce the rights and privileges of his conſtituents, who could not imagine themſelves to be in the due enjoyment of them, as long as the Habeas Corpus Act remained ſuſpended. He warmly expreſſed it to be his wiſh and intention to move immediately for the repeal of an act, that, to him, appeared to ſtigmatize the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament; but he requeſted that ſome one of his Majeſty's miniſters would previouſly condeſcend to inform the Houſe, if it was their intention to repeal it themſelves, or renew it at the time of its expiration.

Mr Dundas replied, that nothing had occurred ſince the laſt meeting of Parliament, that had induced him to believe, that the act then paſſed for ſuſpending the Habeas Corpus Bill ſhould not ſtill be kept in force, and even renewed after the time it of courſe expired, ſhould circumſtances call for ſuch a meaſure of precaution.

The Solicitor General contended, there was abundant matter of proof to ſubſtantiate the charge of high treaſon brought againſt the priſoners at the late trials; and aſſured gentlemen, that if the jurors were as well acquainted as he was with the nature and force of the evidence, they would not have heſitated to find the priſoners guilty (here much laughter, and cry of, Hear him!); ſo convinced even were the

pri-

priſoners themſelves that there exiſted a treaſonable conſpiracy, that one of them (Mr Horne Tooke) confeſſed, and declared upon *oath*, that he did not diſbelieve the exiſtence of plots, but that the proofs were not ſufficiently ſtrong or ſatisfactory to convict the priſoners who were brought to trial.

Mr Fox next controverted the opinions, and refuted the arguments advanced by the Solicitor General, in a vein of pleaſantry uncommonly happy. He touched upon the aſſertion of the learned Crown lawyer, that if the juries, on the late trials, were as well informed as he was of the force and convincing evidence of the proofs that there exiſted a conſpiracy, they would not have failed to find the priſoners guilty. Mr Fox aſſured the Houſe he perfectly coincided in opinion with the Juries, and that he did not feel a greater degree of conviction from the ſpeech of the learned gentleman this night, than they ſeemed to be impreſſed with from his wonderful exertions on a former occaſion. The Juries had diſcharged their duty with honeſty and integrity, and ſatisfaction to the public. Juries are not compoſed of placemen and penſioners; of men who are promiſed, or promiſe themſelves, peerages; nor do they, like the committee who furniſhed the report, look up to party connections, or indulge themſelves with party expectations. If it really be the intention of Miniſters to continue the ſuſpenſion of the Habeas Corpus Act, it is plain to ſee, that there is nothing too deſperate for their ambition. When the day comes, concluded Mr Fox, the ſubject will, I hope, be properly diſcuſſed: in the mean time, I ſhall give my vote for the repeal of the act of laſt ſeſſions; and I conſider the Houſe and my country greatly obliged to my friend for his endeavours to obtain it.

Mr Sheridan moved an enquiry into the nomination of a third Secretary of State, an office which, he ſaid, was aboliſhed and ſuppreſſed by an act of Parliament, commonly called Mr Burke's Bill.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer ſaid, there was no violation either of the letter or of the ſpirit of Mr Burke's bill. There was no increaſe of emoluments or ſalary, and, conſequently, not the ſmalleſt foundation for the obſervations of the honourable gentleman.

Mr Dundas begged leave to ſay, if he had enjoyed any emolument under the Government, as a Secretary of State, he ſhould have had no difficulty openly to avow it. He had poſſeſſed a very laborious and extenſive department, and was at laſt releaſed from the labour and from the emoluments of it.

The Speaker proceeded to read his Majeſty's Speech, when

Sir Edward Knatchbull, with the greateſt degree of reſpect, requeſted the indulgence of the Houſe. His intention, he ſaid, were to move an humble Addreſs to his Majeſty, for the gracious ſpeech which he had that day delivered from the throne. He wiſhed every man to ſpeak his real and undiſguiſed ſentiments as he did his. From the preſent internal ſituation of France, he drew ſome favourable concluſions. He obſerved, that their reſources were in a rapid decline, while our happy Kingdom derived freſh vigour from our commerce. He truſted, that every Engliſhman would lay his hand upon his heart, and on his purſe, if neceſſary, and ſwear to defend his country whenever his aſſiſtance ſhould be wanting. He then ſlightly commented on the treaty of amity with America, and the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princeſs Caroline of Brunſwick, and concluded by moving the addreſs, which, as uſual, was the echo of the ſpeech.

Mr Canning ſaid, he roſe to ſecond the Addreſs which had been moved by the worthy Baronet. Whatever difference of opinion might prevail, in general, in that Houſe, he was led to hope, that, upon many of the topics which were contained in his Majeſty's ſpeech, there would be a perfect unanimity. To thoſe gentlemen with whom he had the honour of voting laſt year, it would not, he hoped, be neceſſary to urge many arguments to induce them to concur in the preſent Addreſs: If any were neceſſary, he would only deſire thoſe gentlemen to conſider the various deciſions and declarations to which that Houſe had come ſince the commencement of the war.—Theſe deciſions were not made by that Houſe, but with the moſt mature deliberation, and after the moſt elaborate diſcuſſion. If then the opinions adopted by the majority of that Houſe were founded, at that time, in wiſdom and juſtice, he wiſhed to know what circumſtances had occurred ſince they had laſt met, which could properly induce them to alter their ſentiments. Was there any gentleman who could prove, that any of the misfortunes which we had experienced during the courſe of the laſt campaign, were imputable to the miniſters of this country? or were

were they not rather ſuch as no human prudence could foreſee, and no human power prevent? Moſt of the failures which had attended us in the laſt campaign, muſt be imputed to the defection of our allies, and alſo to the irreſiſtible force of our enemies; a force of which hiſtory had no parallel. He was perfectly aware that it might be ſaid, that the Government of this country might have avoided many of the calamities of the war, if they had attended to the warnings and predictions which had been given by gentlemen on the other ſide of the Houſe. When he thus candidly gave credit to thoſe gentlemen for their predictions, he wiſhed it might not be forgotten, that ſome predictions had been made uſe of by perſons who ſupported the war, and which had been equally juſtified by the event. When Jacobiſm was at its greateſt height; when its influence circulated through every part of the French government; when it ſeemed as the very ſource of motion in all their enterprizes; even then its fall was foretold in that Houſe, and, happily for humanity, with truth. He wiſhed, however, not to be miſunderſtood; he did not mean that, by the acceſſion of the moderates to the ſovereign power of France, the poſſibility of our treating with them had become greater, becauſe the only difference between them and the Jacobins was, that they poſſeſſed the intentions, though they had not the power of the Jacobins. In order to form an idea of what terms of peace we could expect from the French, he wiſhed the Houſe to attend to the declarations which they had made; they had divided their enemies into two claſſes, viz. thoſe who were the inſtigators of the war, and thoſe who were compelled into the war. If then we could even now have a peace with France, it muſt be an inſecure one; it muſt be a peace with all the inconveniencies and expences of a war eſtabliſhment. Such a peace, he was ſure, this country would never aſſent to, and therefore he hoped he ſhould divide with a very large majority for the Addreſs.

Mr Wilberforce ſaid, he felt much concern that he was compelled upon this occaſion to differ from thoſe with whom it had been the pride of his life to agree; but he was bound by a duty which he felt as paramount to every other conſideration. He had the greateſt confidence in his Majeſty's miniſters, but he could not anſwer to his conſtituents, nor to his own feelings as a man, if he continued to ſupport them after he ceaſed to approve of their meaſures. If there had been any thing like a pacificatory tendency in his Majeſty's ſpeech; if there had been any thing which did not preclude the poſſibility of a peace, he ſhould have been happy in being able to give his aſſent to it; he would at leaſt have tried the experiment a little longer. But no ſuch hope was held out; the ſpeech from the throne, and the addreſs moved, ſpoke a language too plain to be miſunderſtood. It was impoſſible for any gentleman to vote for the Addreſs who was not to go the length of ſaying, that he would not make peace until there was a form of government eſtabliſhed in France according with his ideas of propriety and ſtability. The honourable Gentleman who had juſt ſat down, hurried away by his own eloquence, had made aſſertions which it was impoſſible to maintain, and had aſked queſtions which it was unfortunately but too eaſy to anſwer. The hon. Gentleman ſaid, the ſituation in which we were placed at preſent, was the ſame as when Parliament ſeparated laſt ſeſſions; or, if there was any difference, it was not ſuch a one as made it neceſſary for us to alter our objects. The view he had taken of affairs ſince Parliament ſeparated laſt ſummer, ſuggeſted to him many differences in our ſituation, and thoſe of a very important nature. He begged gentlemen to conſider what our ſituation really was, and to aſk themſelves, Whether they thought the intereſt of the country would be better conſulted by a peace, or by a proſecution of the war? If they were of the latter opinion, he would then aſk, Were there any ſubſtantial grounds upon which to expect ſucceſs in the enſuing campaign? he was ſorry to ſay, the anſwer muſt be in the negative—Still leſs grounds were there to hope for a counter-revolution founded upon ſuch principles as we ſhould approve of. The preſent principles of France had now gained ſtrength by duration. New generations were coming into life with the moſt inveterate prejudices againſt the ancient government, and againſt monarchy in general; there was therefore but little hope of the re-eſtabliſhment even of a limited monarchy in France. There were many accounts propagated of the diſtreſs to which the French were reduced, and of the total derangement of their finances—theſe accounts he was much inclined to diſtruſt, or even if they were true, he did not think ſuch ſtrong effects in our favour would enſue, as had been repreſented.

ſented. Proteſting once more, that nothing was farther from his intention than, in any degree, to lower the dignity of the Britiſh character, he ſhould conclude with moving an amendment to the Addreſs, 'To aſſure his Majeſty, that his faithful Commons would readily concur in enabling his Majeſty to act with vigour and effect againſt his enemies, and to aſſiſt his allies; and that they will always be ready to furniſh him with ſuch ſupplies as may be neceſſary to ſupport the dignity of his throne, and to promote the welfare of his ſubjects. Notwithſtanding our recent reverſes and diſappointments, they earneſtly hope that his Majeſty's throne and dominions will remain ſecure from the attacks both of foreign and domeſtic foes.—Yet, from the retroſpect of theſe calamities, they judge it adviſeable to admoniſh his Majeſty to take ſuch meaſures as may ſeem proper to procure a ſpeedy and honourable peace. And if this be denied, his Majeſty may reſt aſſured, that his faithful Commons will furniſh him with the neceſſary ſupplies for a vigorous proſecution of the juſt and neceſſary war.'

Mr Dunecombe, the other member for Yorkſhire, ſeconded the amendment.

Mr Wyndham—It was with ſorrow, he ſaid, he heard the amendment propoſed by the hon. Gentleman, as his opinion was important, he went on in a ſtrain of deſpondency, and declared, that our proſpect of ſucceſs now, was leſs than it had been in the laſt campaign. Was this the language held forth at this time by our enemies? were they deſponding and fearful for the ſucceſs of their arms? No; the more diſaſtrous their ſituation ever had been, the more vigorouſly did they exert themſelves; and it were much to be wiſhed, that this country might imitate them in that inſtance at leaſt. The firſt thing which was urged againſt the continuance of the war, was its ill ſucceſs—a fact that was not denied by his Majeſty in his ſpeech from the throne. Our ſucceſs was not bad, compared with our hopes or expectations: it was not bad, compared with what had happened in former wars, which, though attended with many diſaſters, had a fortunate termination. To ſhew that the public mind was not as yet ſufficiently aware of the danger that threatened us, he would recur to that great event which gave riſe to it—the French revolution. At the time it firſt took place, the world did not perceive it in its true light, nor foreſee the conſequences that were one day to reſult from it. People received it favourably, and were taught to believe, that it was the cauſe of liberty which had triumphed over deſpotiſm. There was one great man, however, in this country, who ſoon ſaw the dreadful evils with which that revolution was pregnant. That great and exalted genius*, whoſe abſence within the walls of that Houſe he very much regretted had, at an early period, publiſhed his ſentiments on the French revolution; and it was a tribute which every man owed to his memory to read his book. For although that work had been at firſt diſregarded, he would appeal to the world, if every thing aſſerted in it did not ſince turn out to be true. In conſequence of the French revolution, a new ſyſtem of politics was introduced by its favourers in this country. It was repreſented, that a new order of things was to take place; that peace was to be eſtabliſhed all over the world; that the Temple of Janus was to be ſhut up for ever; and that we were to have nothing but Haleyon days. Another doctrine which accompanied that of eternal peace was, no war ſhould be entered into unleſs the advantages to be gained from it were likely to outweer the expence. The propagators of this new doctrine never ſaw the neceſſity of wars by which no advantage whatever was to be gained, except that of maintaining the honour and independence of the nation by which they were begun. Another new doctrine was that of denying the right of a country's interfering in the concerns of an independent nation; a doctrine which was unſupported by any of the writers on the laws of nations. Mr Wyndham then adverted to the aſſertion that had been made, that this country would be obliged to carry on the war alone. The withdrawing of one ally was not a change of the confederacy. We ſtill had the aſſiſtance of others. Should there be a peace to-morrow, what would be the conſequence? The ports of Calais and Dover would be again thrown open; Frenchmen and their principles would be imported into this country; crowds of Engliſhmen would flock to France. The Conſtitutional Society, and the London Correſponding Society would receive into their boſoms men ſurrounded with all the emblems of Jacobiniſm, red caps, daggers, &c. and probably form a National Convention. The French were at this time actuated with an intemperate deſire of conqueſt, and peace with them would be our utter ruin. The hon. mem-

* Meaning, we ſuppoſe, Mr Burke.

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ber concluded with quoting a part of King William's ſpeech on an occaſion ſimilar to the preſent—'You have now an opportunity of preſerving the liberties of your country, by doing which, you will ſupport the ancient ſpirit of Engliſhmen.'

Sir Richard Hill ſaid, he had been many years in the habit of coinciding with Adminiſtration; in the preſent inſtance he was led to differ. With reſpect to voting for a continuance of the war, he could not, he ſaid, in conſcience do it. From the regard he had for his countrymen, he could not conſent to vote the money out of their pockets, and the blood out of their veins, in ſupport of a war which had proved diſaſtrous in the extreme. He recommended an attention to the Wooden Walls of Old England, and then Britannia would Rule the Waves. He concluded with giving his aſſent to the Amendment.

Mr Pitt declared, he roſe with greater anxiety than he remembered to have experienced ſince he had the honour of a ſeat in that Houſe, finding, as he did, a difference of ſentiment in ſome of his hon. friends, from whom he had leaſt expected it. His hon. friend (Mr Wilberforce) had ſaid, that he would not vote for the addreſs as it ſtood; conceiving that he who voted for it pledged himſelf not to negociate with a republican. For his part, he did not conſider himſelf, though he ſhould vote for the addreſs, pledged to that extent; but that with the preſent government, if ſo it might be called, in France, it was impoſſible to treat with any ſecurity: and that they were by no means in a ſituation to compel us to the adoption of ſuch a meaſure. He could very well ſuppoſe the poſſibility of a republic, even in France, with which a rational treaty might be made; but as a queſtion of opinion, he would ſay, that with the preſent rulers any ſatisfactory or ſecure negociation was very unlikely. He ſaid, that the true point for the conſideration of the Houſe was, Whether, on a compariſon between the riſk we run from ſubmitting to France, and the hazards we incurred by a continuation of the war, it was adviſeable to continue the war for another campaign or not? In conſidering this point, he ſaid it was not for the Houſe to enter into an enquiry about names and forms: the queſtion was, What were the principles which directed our enemies? their ſyſtem would be found to be founded on the rights of man, liberty and equality, which, in their nature, are contrary to all governments, and particularly to the very eſſence of the Britiſh conſtitution; that chief reproach and contradiction to their government, which enthroned tyranny, and put liberty in chains, while ours was formed for the preſervation of every thing valuable to man or ſociety. This, he ſaid, accounted for their antipathy to our government. Did the Houſe or his hon. friend expect from them the return of cordial intentions, or fair cordial communication? Could they imagine, that from ſuch perſons a reciprocation of good faith might be expected, ſo as to render caution on our part uſeleſs, and enable us to profit by retrenchment? What, he demanded, could be hoped from a peace, made without mutual cordiality? Nothing but ſuſpicion, fears, jealouſy, and perfidy; and was it politic for us, in order to avoid temporary difficulties, to make ſo diſhonourable and dangerous a conceſſion, and ſend it down with all its miſchiefs to poſterity, for whoſe ſafety and well-being it was the duty of the Houſe eſpecially to provide? If it was made, how long were they to hope it would be till it was broken, and war again re-kindled? With how many more diſadvantages would they not come again to the conteſt? And how did the Houſe hope to paſs the interval? The danger of peace, he maintained to be worſe than war; and the object for which war was firſt undertaken, was attended, at this hour, with more impoſing neceſſity of vigorous proſecution than it was at the very commencement; as, if diſcontinued or ſuſpended, it would give the French time to breathe, and when we had occaſion again to face them (which he was ſure would not be a long time after) we ſhould have to contend with tenfold force, with leſs ſufficient means. Would his hon. friend, or would even the right hon. gentleman oppoſite (Mr Fox) himſelf ſay, that England was in that ſtate under which ſhe ſhould agree to a peace, leaving the Auſtrian Netherlands in poſſeſſion of the French? In a few months after, Holland would certainly be added to that acquiſition, and in a ſhort time afterwards, the ſword muſt be drawn again; and he put it to them to ſay, whether they in their conſcience believed, that a reſtoration of the Auſtrian Netherlands would be made part of the terms of peace! The Chancellor of the Exchequer then adverted to our Weſt India conqueſts, and beſought the Houſe to conſider, whether they would adviſe an act of national perfidy; betray

thoſe who confided in them, and give them up to their murderers; or, on the contrary, yield them protection: a more noble cauſe of war than ambition or honour merely? After arguing this point in his uſual ſtyle of eloquence and acuteneſs, the Chancellor of the Exchequer adverted to the ſtate of the finances of France, and from thence drew many ſtrong and concluſive arguments in favour of carrying on the war. He then ſtated, from unqueſtionable documents of the Convention's own ſhewing, that, ſince the revolution, their expenditures amounted to 480 millions Sterling; 320 millions Sterling in two years was the price of the efforts by which ſhe wreſted from the allies the conqueſts they had obtained. It might appear, he ſaid, very extraordinary, how they contrived to carry into the receſſes of every houſe, the impulſe of their engine—Terror. A law was made by them enacting a penalty of 20 years impriſonment againſt any man who refuſed to take the aſſignats at the depreciated value of one ſixth, and, at the ſame time, for them, by an arbitrary maximum, to ſell their proviſions at a low price fixed by themſelves. This, he ſaid, was actually carried into execution. But means ſo violent could not be expected to laſt long, nor did it laſt. In the days of Robeſpierre, the advocates for the French had ſaid, all this was done by the enthuſiaſm of the people; but it appeared afterwards to be done by cruelty—by the revolutionary tribunal, and the indefatigable activity of the guillotine—that taken away, the aſſignats fell conſiderably. What could they poſſibly reſort to for freſh ſupplies? Could it be ſuppoſed, that, when the forced loan failed at the time it was attempted, it can again be tried and ſucceed in a time much more unfavourable to it, when the ſyſtem of terror is almoſt diſſolved? If preſſed, he ſaid, they muſt iſſue more aſſignats, and thereby add to their rapid depreciation; but, if not preſſed, would uſe the interval of peace, to caſe themſelves of the load, and lay up freſh means for war. He ſaid, that, ſuppoſe Holland did make peace, and we had no actual aſſiſtant but the Court of Berlin, he ſaw no reaſon for thinking that, in the next campaign, we ſhould not ſucceed; and if we gave the Auſtrians pecuniary aid, and they joined us with our augmented army, he could, for his part, ſee no reaſon why, with Spain and our other allies to make a diverſion, we ſhould not accompliſh the important purpoſe—a purpoſe in the accompliſhment of which, the happineſs, almoſt the exiſtence, of Europe entirely reſted.

Mr Fox ſaid, he would aſk the right hon. Gentleman, where could be the impropriety of attempting the iſſue of a negociation, and founding a pacification upon it? Had not Denmark, Sweden, and the Swiſs Cantons, and the United States of America, preſerved peace with France? and had they not been as effectually ſaved from the contamination of French principles, as we could be by the moſt bloody and vindictive war? An hon. Gentleman had talked of the ſucceſſes of the French in very contemptuous terms, ſaying, that they had only taken a few walled towns; whereas, in truth, they had made conqueſts unequalled in the hiſtory of modern Europe; having over-run, in one campaign, the whole of the Auſtrian Netherlands, all Germany on the left ſide of the Rhine, and the fineſt provinces of the Spaniſh monarchy. Mr Fox then proceeded to argue on the abſurdity of any further continuation of the war, and, after various comments on the internal ſtate of France, concluded by declaring he ſhould vote for the amendment.

When the queſtion was put, the Houſe divided, when there appeared,

For the Amendment,	73
Againſt it,	246

The original motion was then put and carried.

31. Sir Edward Knatchbull brought up the Addreſs to his Majeſty; and thoſe members which are of his Majeſty's Privy Council were requeſted to wait upon the King to learn when it will be his pleaſure to receive it.

Jan. 1. The Houſe ordered, that no private petitions ſhould be received after the 6th of February next.

2. The Speaker ſaid, that as the former arrangement, relative to the conducting of private buſineſs, had been found moſt convenient, it would be adopted during the preſent ſeſſions; and that all private buſineſs would ceaſe at four, when public buſineſs would immediately commence. He acquainted the Houſe, that the Addreſs had been preſented to his Majeſty, who had been pleaſed to return a moſt gracious anſwer.

Mr Sheridan gave notice, that he meant to bring forward a motion, relative to the repeal of the Habeas Corpus Act, on Monday next.

Mr Maurice Robinſon ſaid, he ſhould move to take into conſideration the State of the Navy on Monday next.

SUPPLY.

SUPPLY.

The Houſe having reſolved itſelf into a committee of ſupply, and his Majeſty's ſpeech was ordered to be referred to the ſaid committee. After the motion that a ſupply ſhould be granted to his Majeſty,

Some converſation took place between Mr Sheridan, Mr Roſe, Mr Fox, and Mr Steele, relative to the nature of the loan, and the urgent neceſſity there was to give the earlieſt notice to the Houſe, that they might have ſufficient time to deliberate upon a meaſure of ſo much importance to this country as the Imperial loan.

Mr Sheridan having accuſed the Chancellor of the Exchequer of having violated the forms of the Houſe, in not being preſent in the committee of ſupply, and having negotiated the loan without conſent of Parliament;

Mr Steele contended, that the moſt proper time for diſcuſſing this queſtion, would be when the loan itſelf ſhould come before the Houſe.

Mr Sheridan replied, that this was the proper time when that ſubject ought to be diſcuſſed. Many Members of Parliament, he ſaid, were deeply implicated in the event of the loan, and ſtrongly intereſted that that loan ſhould take place. Mr Sheridan ſaid, after the experience we had had of Pruſſian faith, he knew not how any Engliſhman could come forward without a maſk upon his face, and propoſe the loan to the Emperor. He conſidered it as a barefaced impoſition upon the Britiſh public, and he did not know how it was poſſible for any barefaced Engliſhman to come forward and propoſe it. The preſent period, Mr Sheridan ſaid, was therefore the proper time to diſcuſs the queſtion, as it might be a proper ground for refuſing the ſupply.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, (who came in before Mr Sheridan had finiſhed ſpeaking) obſerved, that as he was not preſent when the hon. gentleman had commenced his animadverſions, he could only reply to what he conceived to be the buſineſs before the Houſe. The preſent motion, he underſtood, to be general, namely, that a ſupply ſhould be granted to his Majeſty. This he conceived to have been agreed to by every gentleman in that Houſe: thoſe who had voted with him, and thoſe who had voted againſt him: thoſe who had voted for the addreſs, and thoſe who had voted for the amendment, he conceived were all pledged that a ſupply ſhould be granted to his Majeſty: the quantum of that ſupply was not a queſtion now before the Houſe.—The Emperor, Mr Pitt ſaid, is ready to furniſh aſſiſtance, if we will advance him a loan in order to pay his troops, and he truſted and believed that the Emperor would furniſh ſuch a number of troops as would ſoon make this war effectual; and there is every reaſon to believe, ſaid Mr Pitt, that our efforts muſt ſoon be ſucceſsful, even from the confeſſions of our enemies themſelves. With reſpect to the other part of the hon. gentleman's argument, namely, the arangements entered into with the monied men, prior to the meeting of Parliament relative to the terms of the loan, theſe are only proviſional, and the agreement is only a conditional agreement, and the faith of Parliament is not thereby bound to the tranſaction. With reſpect to the time, he ſaid, it could make no difference as to the principle.

Mr Fox replied at conſiderable length, and ſaid, that although he ſhould vote for the ſupplies, yet he by no means agreed, that thoſe who voted for the amendment were pledged to vote for the ſupply, unleſs that ſupply were appropriated to the means of a ſpeedy peace, and not for the purpoſe of carrying on a deſperate external war. He complained of the dilemma he laboured under of being compelled to vote the ſupplies, or to involve the country in difficulties, if they were refuſed. He animadverted on the Pruſſian ſubſidy, and was concerned to find, that the more deſperate any expedient is become, the more his Majeſty's miniſters ſeem determined to purſue it.

Mr Pitt ſaid, that he propoſed to make the guarantee a ſeparate conſideration from the Budget; and that Wedneſday the 21ſt of this month was the day on which he would bring it forward. He was bound to enter into the negotiation, as it enabled him to aſcertain what auxiliary force this country could look to from the co-operation of the Emperor, which was a very material article for him to ſubmit to them, when the ſervices of the approaching campaign were conſidered. This was the only reaſon of the negotiation for the loan taking place ſo much earlier this year than the laſt.

Mr Wilberforce thought, that if a propoſition for peace was made, it would be ſucceſsful, ſuppoſing even that the party which prevails in France, were unwilling to accept it. But if, according to the ſenſe of the Houſe, or the other alterna-

tive, it ſhould be found neceſſary to carry on a firm, vigorous, and united proſecution of the war, then he was convinced alſo of the neceſſity of a large ſupply. If the war is to be carried on, although Mr Wilberforce ſaid it would be ſorely againſt his will, ſtill he would rather have a firm and vigorous war, than a languid or inefficient peace; for, bad as it is, it is better than nothing at all. He ſhould therefore, give the ſupplies his ſupport; ſince, by giving the war a vigorous aſſiſtance, we might poſſibly expedite the chance of making a peace.

Sir William Milner ſaid, he had voted for the amendment on a former evening, becauſe he conceived, from the language of different Proclamations, that the French muſt ſuppoſe England would not make peace until the old government be reſtored. That ſeems to be the determination at preſent of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, not to treat with any but a monarchical government. Nor was it the Chancellor's determination only, but of all the members of Adminiſtration.

Mr Pitt was anxious that the points of difference ſhould be clearly and generally underſtood, and he thought that he had taken ſome pains, at leaſt, to make himſelf underſtood on that ſubject, in the courſe of the laſt debate. True it was, that in his opinion, the beſt ſecurity that we could have for ſuch a treaty, was a reſtoration of monarchy in France in ſome ſhape or degree; but he was not bound by any thing that he had ſaid from treating with a Republican form, or even the preſent government, if it ſhould modify itſelf, ſo as to be capable of giving that ſecurity we look for; or if our ſituation ſhould, unfortunately, and contrary to all probability, be ſo changed, that an inſecure peace ſhould become deſireable as a leſs evil than carrying on the war.

Mr Sheridan profeſſed himſelf but little the wiſer for Mr Pitt's explanations in general, and the ſame want of benefit he was obliged to complain of on this occaſion. He admitted, that in the outſet, there was ſomething explicit, but it was ſo buried in the maſs of words that followed, that no diſtinct idea remained. If he underſtood any thing, it was, that no peace was to be made with the preſent government of France while it was the ſame. The faſhionable phraſe of *preſent exiſting circumſtances*, ſo perplexed the previous meaning, that he could infer nothing elſe, which yet, however, Mr Pitt ſeemed to wiſh ſhould not be underſtood.

Mr Hobart, as chairman of the committee of ſupply, then put the queſtion, That a ſupply be granted to his Majeſty, which was carried, and ordered to be reported to-morrow. Adjourned.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

5. The Houſe, in a committee of ſupply, Mr Hobart in the chair, voted 2,000,000l. towards paying off and diſcharging Exchequer bills, made out by virtue of an act of laſt ſeſſion, for raiſing a certain ſum of money by Loans on Exchequer Bills, for the ſervice of the year 1794. 1,500,000l. towards paying off and diſcharging Exchequer bills, made out by virtue of an act laſt ſeſſion, for raiſing a further ſum as above. 2,500,000l. towards paying off and diſcharging Exchequer bills made forth by an act of laſt ſeſſion, for enabling his Majeſty to raiſe the ſaid ſum, for certain purpoſes therein mentioned.

The Houſe being reſumed, the report was ordered to be brought up to-morrow, and the committee of ſupply to ſit again on Wedneſday.

PEACE OR WAR.

Mr Grey felt it his duty to give notice of a motion, which he intended to bring forward the 20th inſt. and which would have for its object, to be informed, why miniſters would not adviſe his Majeſty to attempt a negociation, even under the preſent exiſting circumſtances, declaring it not to be our intention to interfere with the preſent internal government of France.

SUBSIDY TO THE KING OF PRUSSIA.

Mr Fox ſaid, that previous to the diſcuſſion of that part of the loan which was intended as a ſubſidy for the Emperor, he deemed it neceſſary to move, that an account be given in of the ſums paid to the King of Pruſſia, and of the ſervices which he had rendered to the general cauſe.

Mr Jekyll ſeconded the motion, and propoſed an amendment, that beſides the account of the money iſſued for, and received by the King of Pruſſia, an official return ſhould be made of the number of troops brought into the field by him during the laſt campaign.

Mr Pitt replied to Mr Jekyll and Mr Fox, and went into an able defence of the ſubſidy granted to the King of Pruſſia; obſerving, that ſignal advantages had been reaped from it to the cauſe of the Allies, which the hiſtory of the campaign would abundantly prove. He ſaid, that no exact official return could be given of the number of troops employed by the King of Pruſſia in the general cauſe, as they were not commanded by a Britiſh officer, but

but that it was eaſily aſcertained by other modes of general information. He therefore moved, that the words, 'return of the number of troops,' be left out of the amendment.

For Mr Pitt's amendment,	110
For the original motion,	53
Majority	——77.

HABEAS CORPUS ACT.

Mr Sheridan ſupported his motion for a repeal of the ſuſpenſion of the Habeas Corpus Act in a ſpeech of great length, in which he diſplayed the moſt forcible reaſoning, the moſt ſarcaſtic irony, the moſt courtly pleaſantry, and the moſt energetic eloquence. He took a retroſpective view of the conduct of miniſters ſince the time of the proclamation in September 1792, and reprobated, in the ſevereſt language, their various contrivances to create alarms, and to excite diſtruſt. The event of the late trials fully unmaſked their manœuvres, and the verdict of different Juries completely negatived the exiſtence of that conſpiracy which they had employed ſuch unwearied exertions to aſcertain. On the ſubject of the verdict of Juries and their rights, he deſcanted in the moſt animated and glowing language. He held them up to the love and protection of his fellow-countrymen, as objects they ſhould ever hold as moſt ſacred and moſt dear; and hence took occaſion to cenſure and expoſe the expreſſions of 'unfortunate acquitted felons,' that dropt from Mr Wyndham—expreſſions that were as diſhonourable to the heart, as diſgraceful to the lips of him who pronounced them.—He alſo animadverted on the conduct and language of the Solicitor General, which he pointedly ridiculed particularly his aſſertion, that were the Juries as well acquainted with the facts as he was, they would have found the priſoners guilty. In a vein of the moſt exquiſite humour, he ran over much of the evidence given by the witneſſes. It was found, he ſaid, that the fortified tower of thoſe *tremendous* conſpirators was a *garret* in Lambeth; that their arſenal conſiſted of eleven pikes; that their exchequer contained about 9l.; that their generaliſſimo was a barber; and the inſtrument fabricated to impede the march of our cavalry, a tectotum in a ſhop-window at Sheffield. The whole, it was clear, was a fabrication of miniſters, and their ſuſpending the Habeas Corpus Act the moſt audacious libel on all the people of England. He here entered into the moſt flattering encomiums on the character and manners of Engliſhmen, which he moſt ſtrikingly contraſted with thoſe of the French, by whoſe example they were ſuſpected of being diſpoſed to be influenced. Their character and their rights, he, for one, would always defend, to the utmoſt of his ability and zeal; and in ſpite of all the illiberal aſperſions thrown upon his public and political conduct, he truſted it would be finally ſeen to be that of a man who loved the true liberties of the people, the conſtitution of his country, and revered monarchy, even hereditary monarchy, for which he profeſſed the moſt firm and willing attachment. He ended by recommending, that the benefits of the Habeas Corpus Act be reſtored to this country, declaring, that he felt it his duty, not to delay one moment exerting every nerve in his power that ſhould contribute to inſure him ſucceſs.

Mr Wyndham entered into a ſpirited reply, in which he diſplayed his uſual ingenuity and philological acuteneſs.—A conſiderable part of his ſpeech was allotted to a defence of his conduct, and that of thoſe of his friends, who had recently joined the ſtandard of Adminiſtration. Adverting, then, to the immediate ſubject of diſcuſſion, he firſt obſerved the ſtreſs which had been laid by gentlemen oppoſite to him, on a word uſed by him on a former night, namely, an 'acquitted felon:' this language, he inſiſted, was founded in ſtrict propriety, and the daily tranſactions of the courts of juſtice would warrant him in it, inaſmuch as an acquittal, in many inſtances, was by no means a proof of the innocence of a culprit; ſo that notwithſtanding the exculpatory verdict of the Jury, if the charge was for felony, he was a felon ſtill. He could by no means agree, that the event of the late trials alluded to was a deciſion of the point at iſſue between them, and yet on this circumſtance did the hon. gentleman ground that triumph and exultation which he had ſo pompouſly diſplayed to the Houſe; the merits of his cauſe, were the caſes in other reſpects ſimilar, on any of thoſe innumerable acquittals, where gangs of felons are let looſe on the public every gaol delivery at the Old Bailey, whoſe acquittals are produced by ſome defect in evidence, ſome flaw in the indictment, or through the ignorance or ſupineneſs of Juries. In addition to this reaſoning, he contended, that a deciſion of the Grand Juries who had found the indictments, was a ſtrong preſumptive proof of guilt.—It was ſtrenuouſly contended by profeſſional gentlemen on the oppoſite ſide, that the

the ſtatute of Edward III. ſhould be literally adhered to. Alas! (ſaid Mr Wyndham) what idea could Edward III. poſſibly form of the vague indefinite principles of Jacobiniſm, or of the *new lights* which dazzle and miſlead the French revolutioniſts of the eighteenth century. Impreſſed with theſe ſentiments, he therefore could not regard, but with the moſt decided diſapprobation, the tenor and purport of what had been advanced by the hon. gentleman that night.

Mr Erſkine entered into the ſubject at conſiderable length. He took a comprehenſive view of the various and complicated points of law which were involved in the queſtion in debate. The whole of the preſent queſtion, he obſerved, turned on the diſtinct idea of the exiſtence of a conſpiracy; but which, he contended, was decidedly and totally eradicated by the deciſion of the Juries on the late State Trials; and in arguing this, it was not neceſſary for him to look farther than the caſe of Hardy. After a very long trial, and cloſe inveſtigation, he was acquitted by a Jury of his Peers; therefore, if the confederacy exiſted at all, it muſt be involved in his caſe, it could not exiſt independent of him. In the concluding part of his ſpeech, Mr Erſkine made a pathetic and forcible appeal, as well to the underſtandings as the hearts of Miniſters, conjuring them by every tie which they could poſſibly be bound to the conſtitution or their countrymen, not to ſuffer the odious, unpopular ſuſpenſion of that ſacred bulwark of their common liberties to continue; but for their own ſakes, and for the ſake of common policy, in an hour of ſuch danger as the preſent, when the moment was not known that the enemy would not be on our coaſts, to unite all the people in one intereſt, and in ſupport of our inеſtimable conſtitution, by permitting them to partake freely of its bleſſings.

Mr Serjeant Adair avowed he had a great reſpect for the verdict of a Jury, but he would never agree that it ſhould be put in oppoſition to the ſenſe of Parliament. The two Houſes of Parliament did determine, at the time they agreed to the bill in queſtion, that a great and urgent neceſſity did exiſt, which he thought was not yet done away. And if the verdict of a Jury were to be concluſive againſt the opinion of Parliament, what was to become of the ſuperintending power which Parliament had over the proceedings in Courts of Juſtice, over the conduct of Judges, and of the miniſters of the Crown. There was a great difference between the verdicts which Juries give in civil and criminal caſes. In the former, every thing was nicely balanced on both ſides to incline the determination; in the latter, the ſlighteſt doubt of the guilt of a priſoner, cauſes the Jury to lean towards the ſide of mercy: for it was a well-known maxim in our criminal law, that it was better that twenty guilty perſons ſhould eſcape, than that one innocent perſon ſhould ſuffer. Such was the principle which directed the verdicts of the late Juries. If they had not entertained doubts of the guilt and innocence of the priſoners, how came it, that in Hardy's trial, they were out three hours, and in Thelwall's two hours? They muſt have been convinced that there did exiſt a general conſpiracy. But whether they did think ſo or not, was the opinion of a Jury to be concluſive againſt Parliament, in its legiſlative capacity? No perſon would contend that meetings for the purpoſe of obtaining a Parliamentary reform were illegal; God forbid they ſhould: but it would be evident to every body who would conſider the conduct of thoſe ſocieties, that ſuch a reform was not their object. Let Mr Sheridan prove, that thoſe ſocieties had diſſolved themſelves, and that they had become ſatisfied with the juſtice of their country, and the excellence of its conſtitution, before he ſhould apply for the repeal of a bill that was paſſed on an emergency of danger, which ſtill exiſted. If the hon. gentleman could not do that, he muſt vote againſt his motion.

Mr Pitt ſaid, with reſpect to his intention on the topic of the ſuſpenſion, he was clear that there was equal neceſſity for continuing it, as there was for paſſing it. Were he, however, diſpoſed to repeal the act, he ſhould not offer ſo great an indignity to a ſolemn law paſſed by that Houſe, as not to allow it the duration limited by the legiſlature, for the purpoſe of gratifying thoſe who felt ſo great an intereſt in the fate of the conſpirators, and who, by bringing forward the preſent queſtion, wiſhed to cenſure and ſtigmatiſe the proceedings of Parliament, by bringing a wiſe and neceſſary meaſure of theirs into contempt.

When the Houſe divided, there appeared

For Mr Sheridan's motion,	41
Againſt it,	185
Majority	——144.

FOREIGN TROOPS.

Mr Lambton ſaid, he had no other intention in the motion he was about to make,

make, than to give the public diſtinct information with reſpect to the aſſiſtance they derived from the various ſubſidiary treaties which had been entered into, and thereby to enable the people to judge, whether their money was laid out with the œconomy which ought to mark tranſactions of this nature. He then moved, that an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to requeſt that his Majeſty would be pleaſed to give orders that there be laid before the Houſe returns of all the foreign troops in Britiſh pay; and alſo returns of all the troops in Britiſh pay; and alſo returns of the Elector of Hanover, the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, the Margrave of Baden, and the Landgrave of Heſſe Darmſtadt, that had either been killed in the field, or had died ſince the ſigning of the treaties with thoſe reſpective powers. If theſe returns were laid before the Houſe, the unexampled extravagance of the preſent war would be manifeſt to the Houſe. It was a notorious fact, that we paid nearly thirty pounds per man for every one of thoſe ſubſidiary troops that was either killed or died while in our ſervice. This circumſtance rendered our expences almoſt incalculable. In one ſingle action, in which Marſhal Freytag (who commanded the covering army at the ſiege of Dunkirk) was defeated, there were three thouſand five hundred Hanoverians killed.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he certainly ſhould not oppoſe the motion made by the hon. Gentleman; but he thought it neceſſary to remark, that the hon. Member was rather inaccurate, both with reſpect to the number of ſubſidiary troops ſuppoſed to have been killed, and to the ſum paid by this country upon the loſs of each man.

Mr Lambton ſaid, his information might, perhaps, be rather inaccurate, but that would appear when the returns were laid before the Houſe.

Mr Lambton's motion was then put, and agreed to.

Colonel Maitland moved for a ſimilar Addreſs to his Majeſty reſpecting the number of Engliſh troops killed during the laſt campaign.

This motion was put and agreed to.

TREATY WITH THE KING OF PRUSSIA.

Mr Jekyll ſaid, he had looked into the treaty, and found it ſtipulated in the ſeventh article, that England and Holland were to appoint commiſſioners to be with the Pruſſian army; he wiſhed to know who was the commiſſioner from England, and the information he had communicated to Miniſters.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he wiſhed the hon. gentleman had reduced his queſtion into the form of a motion, as he would rather give any information which it was in his power to give, by regularly laying papers upon the table, than in a converſation like the preſent.

A motion to this purpoſe was then put and agreed to.

THE NAVY.

The Houſe reſolving itſelf into a committee of ſupply, and it being moved that 100,000 ſeamen, including 15,000 marines, be employed for the ſervice of the year 1795;

Mr Maurice Robinſon ſaid, he hoped to have found that ſome other gentleman would have taken up this ſubject who was more competent to the buſineſs. The firſt point to which he wiſhed to call the attention of the Houſe was, the ſuperior conſtruction of the French ſhips when compared to ours; the conſequence was, that upon every occaſion they outſailed us. As long as this continued to be the caſe, our naval ſuperiority could never be ſaid to be complete. He thought it hardly neceſſary, in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, to enforce the importance of the navy; but he was ſorry to ſay, he did not think ſufficient attention had been paid to it during the preſent war.

Captain Berkeley agreed in a certain degree with the hon. gentleman, viz. that the ſtructure of our ſhips ought to be improved; but he did not think it was true, as a general propoſition, that the French ſhips ſailed better than the Engliſh—In ſome inſtances they certainly out-ſailed us: but as a fleet, he thought the Engliſh ſhips equal to the French in point of ſailing. The way which appeared to him the moſt likely to improve the ſtructure of our ſhips, was to grant premiums to thoſe who produced the beſt models*. Capt. Berkeley ſaid, he was ſorry, upon a former occaſion, to hear from a right hon. gentleman ſome attacks upon a noble Lord who lately preſided at the Admiralty Board. The many captures made by the enemy, of our merchant ſhips, had been laid to the charge of that noble Lord; but before gentlemen made ſuch an accuſation, they ought to enquire what number of ſhips ſo taken were under convoy; becauſe if the owners of ſhips ſo

* This debate brings to our recollection a letter upon the ſubject, which appeared in the Monthly Review for November 1793, and which we have laid before our readers: *ſee Vol. 56, page 834.*

taken

taken chofe to run the rifk of fending them, without waiting for a convoy, it was impoffible for the firft Lord of the Admiralty to prevent it.

Admiral Gardner faid, the Lords of the Admiralty did not fuperintend the conftruction of the fhips, that was the duty of the furveyors of the navy. He did not at all agree with the hon. officer (Capt. Berkeley), that the French did not fail better than ours; on the contrary, he thought the French fhips were decidedly fuperior in point of failing. This fuperiority of the French fhips was to be attributed to the premiums which they give for models of fhips; and he wifhed much to fee that practice introduced into this country.

Mr Fox wifhed it to be underftood, that the attack he made upon the late firft Lord of the Admiralty was merely upon his public conduct; with refpect to his private character, no man held it in higher eftimation than he did.—Mr Fox lamented that we fhould be under the neceffity of improving by the French fhips, but acknowledged, with gratitude, that the two naval officers who had fpoken, had had their fhare in bringing in models for us to improve upon. Having made a variety of obfervations upon what appeared to him neglect in thofe to whom the navy was entrufted at home, viz. the Admiralty, he concluded by expreffing his wifh that fome enquiry fhould take place upon the fubject.

Mr Dundas adverted to the abufes alledged by an hon. gentleman to exift in the Navy Office, which, in a forcible manner, he denied to have exiftence there, and atteft the ftrict propriety of conduct there. Agreeably to the declaration of many honourable gentlemen, he alfo was moft cordially difpofed to fubfcribe for the increafe of our navy at this moft critical and important juncture: not, he alledged, from any fuppofition whatever, that any paft neglect in any branch of the Admiralty at all influenced him in this refpect. The right hon. member then took a retrofpective view of the navy of England for the laft three years; and demonftrated that every poffible exertion had been practifed during that period to put the navy on the moft refpectable footing. The whole of the naval force, he faid, previoufly to the breaking out of the war, conftited only of 16,000 feamen: 85,000 were then voted; and, at this very time, not lefs than 90,000 men are in the navy of Great Britain. Nor could greater exertions be ufed than had been to fupport the honour and dignity of our favourite element. When thefe 90,000 feamen, which now manned our fleet, were mingled with landmen, a moft powerful and formidable naval force would be thereby formed: one hundred thoufand are now afked, a greater number than which has never before been afked, except in the fifth year of the laft war. He therefore hoped, that every exertion would be ufed to render our navy as refpectable and perfect as poffible; and this he was juftified in, as it feemed to be the general wifh of the Houfe to effect.

Mr Sheridan entered into a ftrict analyfis of fome parts of the arguments of Mr Dundas, and faid, he really thought more feamen would have been afked, if they thought they could be obtained. We were formerly told, that if the fyftem of terror ceafed in France, we fhould not have farther occafion to grant fupplies to the extent then required. But was this the cafe? Were not greater preparations for war now making than before in that country, which required alfo greater on our part? And if Holland, for the fate of which he was very apprehenfive, was added to the Republic, he thought a much greater number than that demanded ought to be voted.

Mr Alderman Anderfon faid, for his part, he confidered that the Lords of the Admiralty had made very juft provifions for the protection of our trade; he confidered, that particularly the trade to the Weft Indies, and the Irifh trade, had been fufficiently protected; and though Lloyd's Lift may be filled with various loffes of individual merchants; yet it is in confequence of that greedy and impolitic fpirit of adventure, which will run for a market, without waiting or applying for a convoy.

Mr Lambton faid, that he entertained the moft ferious and alarming fears for the fafety of this country, when he contemplated the well planned, vigorous, and powerful preparations of the enemy. He ftated that there was a model made at Breft for a fhip of the line, the moft exquifite in all its parts for their refpective purpofes; the parts were numbered, and models fent to all the provinces; that all over the country they are employed in making the like, and from their ingenious and patriotic exertions, he heard that there would be 60 fhips of the line finifhed on that plan in two months; to which there could be but this objection, that the

wood

wood was green, and poſſibly not ſufficiently ſeaſoned. This matter, conſidered in its full light, as to its tendency and danger to this country, made him with, that inſtead of the preſent vote for 100,000 ſeamen, the number had been increaſed to 130,000.

The reſolution being put, was agreed to.

The Houſe in a committee of ways and means, voted the land-tax for the year 1795 at 4s. per pound, and the malt-tax as uſual.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE.

Admiralty-office, January 7. 1794.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Newcome of his Majeſty's ſhip the Orpheus, to Mr Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty, dated in Madras Road, the 25th of July 1794.

On the 5th of May, Capt. Oſborne of the Centurion, made the ſignal for a ſail, and Captain Pelham of the Reſiſtance, for ſeeing two; Round Iſland bearing ſouth weſt by weſt, ſix or ſeven leagues, at fifty-five minutes paſt eleven I brought him to action, and by a little after twelve the enemy ſtruck, the Centurion and Reſiſtance about three miles aſtern, under a great preſs of ſail, coming up. She proves to be a French frigate, called La Dugnay Trouin of 54 guns, and formerly the Princeſs Royal Eaſt Indiaman, fitted out at the Iſle of France, with 26 eighteen-pounders 2 nine-pounders, and 6 four-pounders, having 487 men on board. I cannot ſay too much in praiſe of the ſteady, cool, and brave conduct of the officers, ſeamen, and marines of his Majeſty's ſhip Orpheus. Our loſs is very inconſiderable, conſidering the ſuperior force of the enemy: Mr Singleton, midſhipman, killed; Mr Staines mate, badly wounded in his left hand; and eight ſeamen ſlightly. The enemy's loſs was 21 killed and 60 wounded.

Finding the bowſprit ſhot through and through, and three of the knees of the head entirely cut away, the diſtreſſed ſtate of the Duguay Trouin, from ſickneſs and want of water, obliged me to ſeek the firſt port: and on the 16th of May I anchored with his Majeſty's ſhips at Mahee, one of the Seſhelle Iſlands. Finding the French had formed a ſettlement, and no refreſhments to be procured, I ſummoned the place to ſurrender, and ſent Lieutenant Goate, with Lieutenant Matthews, and a party of marines, and took poſſeſſion of it the next day for his Britannic Majeſty. Not thinking it of ſufficient conſequence to leave any force, I quitted the place, having taken the Republican flag and all the military and naval ſtores, alſo the brig Le Olivete, leaving the implements of agriculture, for building houſes, &c. for the uſe of the poor inhabitants.

From the very ſickly ſtate of many of the French priſoners, and almoſt a certainty of their dying if embarked to proceed to Madras, I was induced, from motives of humanity, to leave behind ſeveral officers and men, having written to Mr Macartie, Governor of the Iſle of France, to requeſt he would releaſe the ſame number of our priſoners, and of the ſame rank as thoſe that I had left at Mahee; about one hundred and forty more deſerted and got into the woods. The 28th I made the Reſiſtance's ſignal to chace, and ſhe brought in the Deux Andres, from Moſambique, with 408 ſlaves on board. The 1ſt of June I ſailed with his Majeſty's ſhips and prizes, and on the 18th anchored at Madras.

Horſe-Guards, January 6.

By diſpatches received from General Walmoden and Lieut. Gen. Harcourt, dated Arnheim, December 29, 1794, it appears, that, on the 27th, the enemy, conſiſting of about 16,000 men, made a ſucceſsful attack on the Bommel Waart, and the Fort St Andre, from which the Dutch forces were obliged to retreat to the lines between Gorcum and Cuylenberg, which they now occupy; and that the enemy on the ſame evening croſſed the Waal, and took poſition at Thuil, Wetteren, and Wartenberg.

Horſe-Guards, Jan. 16.

Diſpatches, of which the following are copies and extracts, have been received from Gen. Walmoden and Lieut. Gen. Harcourt, by his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York and tranſmitted by him to the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Head-quarters, Arnheim, Jan. 1.

Sir, I have the honour to lay before your Royal Highneſs, the report of the ſucceſs of the attack made on the enemy

on the 30th Dec. by Major Gen. David Dundas.

The corps deſtined for this expedition conſiſted of ten battalions of Britiſh infantry, under Major Gen. Lord Catheart, Major Gen. Gordon, and Lieut. Col. M'Kenzie; ſix ſquadrons of light cavalry, and 150 huſſars, of the Loyal Emigrés, under Major Gen. Sir Robert Lawrie; and of four battalions and four ſquadrons of Heſſians, under Major General De Wurmb.

It was divided into three columns. The left column to attack by the Dyke, the centre to attack in ſuch a manner as to keep the church of Wardenburg upon its left wing, and the right column, conſiſting of four Britiſh battalions and the Rohan huſſars, to keep the left wing *appuyé* to the Vliet, to turn Tuyl, and to attack it in the rear.

Major Gen. Lord Catheart found the road, by which his column was to march, ſo impracticable, that, being obliged to make a great *detour*, he could not come up in time; and Major Gen. Dundas finding, at his arrival near Wardenburg, that the enemy had abandoned it during the night, he thought it advicable to puſh on with the other two columns, and to begin the attack immediately upon Tuyl.

This was executed with ſuch gallantry and ſpirit by the troops, that notwithſtanding the natural ſtrength of this poſt, the abbatis of fruit trees that were made, the batteries of the town of Bommel which flanked the approach, and the conſiderable number of men who defended it, it was ſoon carried, and the enemy driven acroſs the river (every where paſſable on the ice,) with conſiderable loſs of men and four pieces of cannon.

Gen. Dundas ſpeaks in the higheſt terms of commendation of the ſpirited conduct both of the officers and men, during the execution of the ſeveral duties which fell to their lot, as likewiſe, the patience and perſeverance they ſhewed, by undergoing immenſe fatigues and hardſhips, increaſed by cold and the ſeverity of the weather.

I annex the return of our loſs, which is not very great, conſidering the circumſtances. I have the honour to be, &c.

WALMODEN, Gen.

Return of the killed, wounded, and miſſing, of the Britiſh troops, at the attack at Tuyl, the 30th December.

Total. *Killed*—1 field officer, 5 rank and file. *Wounded*—1 officer, 1 drummer, 18 rank and file. *Miſſing*—1 ſerjeant.

78th regiment. *Killed*—Brevet Major Murray. *Wounded*—Lieut. Lindſay.

GEO. DOS, Dep. Adj. Gen.

Heſſians, killed, wounded, and miſſing.

Killed—25 rank and file. *Wounded*—Capt. Cuddalins. *Miſſing*—Lieut. Kamp.

G. DE LOW, Maj. and D. A. G.

Extract of a report from Major Gen. D. Dundas, to Gen. Count Walmoden, dated Tuyl, Dec. 31.

Agreeable to orders I received on the 29th, about ten in the morning I communicated with Gen. Wurmb, and all the troops were put in motion immediately, viz. four battalions and four ſquadrons of Heſſians, under Gen. Wurmb; ten Britiſh battalions, La Chatre's Emigrés, ſix ſquadrons Britiſh cavalry, and 150 huſſars of Rohan, divided in brigades, under Major Gen. Sir Robt Lawrie, Major Gen. Lord Catheart, Major Gen. Gordon, and Lieut. Col. M'Kenzie.

At Geldermalſen Lord Catheart, with four battalions, and Rohan's huſſars, ſtruck off from the Britiſh column to march upon Rumpt and Haarden, ſo as to get behind Tuyl. The reſt of the Britiſh column proceeded by Metteren; and exactly at day light, meeting the Heſſian column near Waardenbourg, attacked the enemy in their poſt of Tuyl, with ſuch reſolution and gallantry of the troops, that it was very ſoon carried, notwithſtanding its natural ſtrength, the abbatis that were made, the batteries of the town of Bommel, which flanked the approach, and the conſiderable number of men who defended it, who were driven acroſs the river (every where paſſable on the ice,) with the loſs of men and cannon. I incloſe a return of the killed and wounded of the Britiſh. D. DUNDAS.

From Gen. Walmoden to his R. H. the D. of York, dated Amerongen, Jan. 6.

On the 3d inſtant I removed my head-quarters to this place. By this diſpoſition, which I had previouſly announced to your Royal Highneſs, I am nearer the ſcene of our preſent operations.

The ſeverity of the weather has encreaſed; and the intenſe cold, of the 3d and 4th, induced the enemy on the latter day, to paſs the Waal near Bommel. Having driven in our advanced poſts, they again took poſſeſſion of Tuyl. Gen. D. Dundas, however, thought he ſhould be able to defend Metteren, and to check the further progreſs of the enemy; but the advanced poſts of the Heſſians, neareſt to Gen. Dundas' poſition, having alſo been obliged to fall back, I agreed with the

the other Generals, to fend orders to Generals Dalwick and Dundas, to unite their forces immediately, and, at day-break of the 5th, to make a vigorous attack on the enemy, and to fpare no efforts to drive them acrofs the Waal. Gen. Dundas probably found the enemy in too great force to venture the attack; but about ten o'clock, he was himfelf attacked at Geldermalfen, by a large body of the enemy's cavalry, fupported by their Tirailliares. Their charge was fo impetuous, both on our cavalry and infantry, that at firft they had the advantage, and took two pieces of cannon; but the referve coming up, the guns were retaken, the enemy repulfed, and the poft preferved.

The violence of the froft having converted the whole country into a kind of plain, which gives the greateft facility to the enemy in their movements, General Dundas thought it neceffary to fall back, during the night, upon Bueren, where General Dalwick was ftationed. This circumftance, and the exceffive fatigue which the troops have undergone in the late operations, at a feafon of the year, and in fituations in which they were often obliged, from want of cantonments, to pafs the night without cover, determined me, in concert with the other Generals, to take up a pofition behind the Leek, for which we had previoufly made the neceffary difpofitions. It extends from Cuylenberg to Wageningen, occupied by the Auftrians.

A late march made by a confiderable column of the enemy, attended by a large train of artillery, towards Gorcum, and their attack upon our right, combined with an attempt upon Thiel, evidently indicated a regular plan of operations on their part, and confirmed me in the opinion of the neceffity of our movement. I hope that all the troops will arrive this evening at their new ftations.

Since yefterday, the weather has become much milder, and gives us reafon to hope for a complete thaw; in which cafe we may expect a favourable change in our affairs.

Head-quarters, Amerangen, Jan. 6.

Sir, Notwithftanding the advantage obtained on the 30th of December by his Majefty's troops, of which I had the honour to inform your Royal Highnefs in my letter of the 1ft inft. as the froft continued increafing, it was judged neceffary that Major Gen. Dundas' corps, and the Heffians fhould fall back to a pofition on the Lingen, leaving outpofts on the Waal. This movement was executed on the night of the 3d.

On the evening of the 4th, the enemy again croffed the Waal in very confiderable force, and drove in our out-pofts on that river; but, upon their advancing yefterday morning againft Gen. Dundas' corps at Geldermalfen, they were repulfed with lofs, and did not renew the attack.

Our picquets were, however, drawn into this fide of the Lingen, and Major Gen. David Dundas finding his pofition near Bueren to be no longer tenable, for want of fufficient covering for his troops, (who have been now fo long expofed to the utmoft inclemency of weather, and the moft fevere and conftant fatigue) the army has this day received orders to crofs the Leek, and take up a pofition on the right bank of that river.

I have as yet received no exact return of our lofs, which is trifling. Major Gen. Sir Robert Lawrie, and two officers of the 78th regiment, are wounded, but, I am happy to add, very flightly. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM HARCOURT.

From Lieut. Gen. Harcourt to his R. H. the D. of York, dated Doorn, Jan. 9.

A very confiderable and fudden thaw having come on, on the 6th inft. which offered a profpect of preferving our pofition on the Waal, it was judged neceffary that the troops, who had not yet croffed the Leek, fhould remain in the cantonments they then occupied, and the reft fhould again move forward. Lieut. Gen. Abercromby and Major Gen. Hammerftein, with the greateft part of their corps, and fome Auftrian battalions, were therefore to have begun their march upon Thiel, and towards Bommel, on the 7th, and Gen. David Dundas' corps received orders, in confequence, to occupy Bueren, and the heights near it, on the 18th, to co-operate with Generals Abercromby and Hammerftein in the propofed attack.

Unfortunately the froft fet in again with great feverity; but as the troops were already in motion, and counter orders might have prevented a combination, from the extent of the line, Gen. David Dundas having aflembled his corps, with a zeal and exertion which reflect the higheft credit on himfelf and the troops, proceeded towards Bueren on the morning of the 8th, having detached, in advance, two battalions, who were afterwards to have marched upon Thiel, to co-operate in the attack of that place. On their arri-

val at Bueren, they found all our posts on the Dingen driven in, and the enemy in force near Bueren. As soon as more troops of Gen. Dundas' corps came up, Major Gen. Lord Cathcart, with the 14th, 27th, and 28th regiments, and the British Hulans, attacked the enemy, and drove them back, with loss, beyond Geldermalsen.

Nothing can exceed the conduct of Lord Cathcart, and those regiments, on this occasion, though I am sorry to inform your Royal Highness, that they suffered considerably. I have as yet received no return of their loss, which I believe amounts to one hundred and sixty killed and wounded. It is with the greatest concern that I must add, that amongst the latter are Lieut. Colonels Butler of the 27th, and Alexander Hope of the 14th, whose wounds, I fear, are very dangerous.

From the very great extent of cantonments, the difficulty of assembling a sufficient corps, or other circumstances with which I am as yet unacquainted, the attack, on the part of General Abercromby and Ommerstein, did not take place yesterday; but as, in the event of its being carried into execution, the occupying of Bueren is of the utmost consequence, Gen. David Dundas still remains there, and near it, with the greatest part of his corps, as does also Major Gen. Wurmb with [illegible] battalions and four squadrons of Hessians, from whence, if necessary, they will advance to co-operate with Gen. Abercromby.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of Gen. David Dundas' report of the affair at Geldermalsen, together with a return of the killed and wounded on that occasion. WM HARCOURT.

Report sent by Major Gen. D. Dundas, dated Bueren, Jan. 6.

SIR, I have hitherto been unable to acquaint you, that, about two in the afternoon of the 4th, the enemy attacked our post at Meteren, about a mile in front, where half of the 33d regiment, with a picquet of 80 cavalry, and two curricle guns, were posted; their number, and disposition to surround the post, soon made it necessary to fall back on the other part of the regiment, which was supported with two howitzers. In this movement they were hard pressed by a large body of the enemy's hussars, that gallopped along the road with great vivacity. The troops having beforehand been in an alert situation, the village of Geldermalsen was soon covered by the 42d and 78th; the 33d took its place in the line of defence, and the other troops were in reserve on the opposite dyke of the Lingen, the river being completely frozen, and passable every where. The enemy still persevering in their attack, advanced on the village both in front and in flank; but after a great deal of musquetry firing for above an hour, were every where repulsed by the steadiness of the troops, and retired upon Meteren through woody and enclosed ground.

Every praise is due to the infantry that was engaged, and, by the particular firm and cool behaviour of the advanced companies of the 78th, the progress of the enemy's cavalry was first checked.

I have the honour to inclose a list of the killed and wounded on this occasion, and remain, Sir, &c.

(Signed) DAVID DUNDAS.

Lieut. Gen. Harcourt.

Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Troops under the command of Major Gen. Dundas, at Geldermalsen, the 5th of January, 1795.

Total— 3 rank and file, 1 horse killed; 1 general officer, 2 captains, 1 subaltern, 54 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 1 serjeant, 6 rank and file, 9 horses, missing.

Officers Wounded—Major Gen. Sir R. Lawrie; Capt. W. Elliot, 33d; Lieut. Colin Lamont, 42d; Capt. Duncan Monro, 78th.

N. B. All the officers and men, in general, are but slightly wounded.

GEO. DON. Dep. Adj. Gen.

From the Hon. Lieut. Gen. Harcourt to his R. H. the D. of York, dated Headquarters, Doorn, Jan. 10.

I lose no time in acquainting your Royal Highness, that the enemy this day, having crossed the Waal in considerable force, attacked our line at several points of it: One column passed at Pannerden, and was immediately repulsed; another passed near Gent, and, after maintaining itself for a short time, was likewise checked; a third passed near Nimeguen, and, in conjunction with two or three columns who crossed between Thiel and Fodewaart, attacked the whole of our line on that side. They forced the Austrians to abandon Heusden, and retreat across the Leck, and obliged the Hanoverians, with General Coates' brigade, and some Austrians, to fall back upon Lent, which, upon their arrival, they found occupied by the enemy, and, in consequence, retreated across the Lingen, where they maintain-

tained their ground behind that river near Elft; which poſition they ſtill occupied at the cloſe of the day.

Lieut. Gen. Abercromby, who was marching upon Leneid to diſlodge the enemy from that poſt, upon their making theſe attacks upon his left and rear, immediately halted, and, finding both the Hanoverians and Auſtrians forced on the flanks and rear, retreated acroſs the Leek, and now occupies the heights near Rhenen.

I have the honour to incloſe the reports which I have received from Generals David Dundas and Lord Cathcart, of the affair of the 8th, together with the return of the killed and wounded.

(Signed) WM HARCOURT.

SIR, I have the honour to acquaint you, that, in conſequence of a direction from Lieut. Gen. Abercromby, and as a part of the general intended forward movement indicated to me, I ordered the 27th and 14th regiments to march from Aulenberg early in the morning of the 8th, and endeavour to repoſſeſs Taiel, which was then in the hands of the enemy.

On the arrival of theſe two regiments at Buerden, Lieut. Gen. Buller found all our advanced poſts fallen back, and the enemy in a conſiderable body marching on to Bueren. He immediately took poſſeſſion of the town and caſtle, and waited the arrival of the troops under my command, who had repaſſed the Rhine, and were on their march to arrive at the rendezvous of Bueren. Our out poſts, which were on the road to Geldermalſen, were neceſſarily ſupported, and Major Gen. Lord Cathcart, with the 14th, 27th, and 28th regiments, after an attack of ſeveral hours, drove the enemy oppoſed to him (800 infantry, two ſquadrons, and a piece of cannon) beyond the village of Geldermalſen, and there took 3 pieces of cannon. For the particulars, I beg leave to refer to Lord Cathcart's report, to whoſe able conduct, and to the ſteadineſs and gallantry of the troops, ſo conſpicuous on this occaſion, we are much indebted. Our loſs has been conſiderable, a liſt of which I incloſe. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) D. DUNDAS, M. Gen.

The Hon. Lieut. Gen. Harcourt.

SIR, *Bueren, Jan. 9.*

On receiving your commands to reconnoitre the enemy, by whom the picquets towards Geldermalſden had been driven in, and to replace a poſt oppoſite to that place, I took a detachment of 30 Hulans, with the light companies, and a detachment of the 27th regiment, and advanced on the dyke:—The Hulans charged the advanced guard of the enemy, and purſued them to Buremalſen, where they killed ſome men, and from whence they alſo brought back priſoners, under cover of the infantry, which flanked the road. Finding that the enemy at that time near me did not amount to more than 800 men, with ſome huſſars, and a piece of cannon, I determined immediately to diſlodge them, and accordingly brought up the remainder of the 27th regiment, the 14th regiment, and two field pieces. The 14th regiment formed on the ice on the left of the dyke, and the 27th, acroſs the incloſures on the right, ſupported by the picquets, by the detachment of Hulans, and afterwards by a ſquadron of light dragoons. The field pieces were on the dyke, and were, with great gallantry and judgment, protected from the enemy's Tirailleurs by Lieut Elrington of the 14th, who advanced before them with the grenadiers of that regiment. The troops marched in this order as expeditiouſly as poſſible, driving the enemy before them. By the time they arrived at Buremalſen, the enemy had paſſed the river, and were collected at Eldermalſen, from whence they kept an inceſſant fire of muſquetry and grape ſhot.

The Britiſh line advanced without an halt, and the 27th regiment, gradually changing its direction to the left, as it approached the mill, at once charged the village acroſs the ice, beyond the burned bridge, and ſeized the cannon, while the 14th regiment entered it on the right; the enemy retired with great precipitation, but ſoon returned in much greater numbers, and, notwithſtanding the fire of the field pieces from the oppoſite ſhore, made repeated attacks on the village in which the regiments were poſted. The ſteady countenance of the troops in the village, however, reduced theſe attacks to a diſtant firing. The gun taken, which was a very fine long braſs eight pounder, French, was ſunk in the river, by the ice breaking under it. On the arrival of the 28th, that regiment immediately formed on each ſide of the windmill, with their field pieces, and the regiments in the village were ordered to repaſs the Lingen, and form behind the dyke; this movement was executed with the greateſt regularity, and they paſſed through the interval of the 28th regt. in good order, and without

leaving

leaving a man, though followed to the end of the bridge by great numbers.

The 28th could not be placed ſo as to cover the paſſage effectually, without being expoſed to a very heavy fire, which they preſented themſelves to, and returned in the moſt ſoldier like manner. Their fire, and that of three guns, again cleared the village, and about ſun ſet all firing ceaſed, and the brigade remained in the poſition until eleven o'clock, when I received your orders to march.

Theſe regiments have all been diſtinguiſhed for their gallant ſervices, one of them on very recent occaſions; but I imagine they never can have ſhewn more chearfulneſs, more diſcipline, or better behaviour than on this affair. I am ſorry to add, our loſs has been conſiderable. No officer ſlightly wounded quitted his poſt; but I join with every officer and ſoldier in lamenting the ſevere wounds which Lieut. Col. Buller, and Lieut. Col. Alexander Hope have received. I am particularly indebted to theſe officers, as well as to Cols. Gillman, and Paget for the manner in which the directions given to them were executed; and I have to acknowledge the moſt active aſſiſtance given me by my aid-de-camp, Capt. Kirkman and the other officers attached to me.

I add a return of the killed, wounded, and miſſing, and have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect, &c.

(Signed) CATHCART, M. G.

To Major-Gen. D. Dundas.

Return of killed, wounded, and miſſing, of the troops under the command of Maj. Gen. Lord Cathcart; on the 8th of January.

Total—2 lieutenants, 1 enſign, 11 rank and file killed; 3 lieutenant-colonels, 1 major, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 3 ſerjeants, 111 rank and file wounded; 7 rank and file miſſing. 3 horſes killed.

GEO. DON. Dep. Adj.-Gen.

Names and Rank of Officers killed and wounded.

Killed—Lieut. Conner, and Lieut. Norbury, 25th reg. Enſign Kelly ditto.

Wounded—Lieut.-Col. Buller, (ſince dead) Lieut. Col. Gillman, 25th reg. and Brigadier-Major Wilſon, ditto. Lieut. Col. Hope, and Capt. Perry, 14th ditto. Lieut. Raitt, 42d ditto.

Horſe-Guards, Jan. 19.

Diſpatches, of which the following is an extract and copy, have been received from Gen. Walmoden and Lieut.-Gen. Harcourt, by his R. H. the D. of York, and ſent to the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas.

From Gen. Walmoden, Voorthuiſen, Jan. 16.

SINCE my laſt diſpatch the enemy have made ſeveral movements, indicating a deſign of a general attack on our poſts, rendered more eaſy by the unfortunate loſs of Heuſden.

On the 15th inſtant they attacked all the points of our line, from Arnheim to Amorongen. The moſt ſerious attempt appears to have been directed againſt Rhenen, on which the advanced poſts had fallen back from the other ſide of the river. Theſe poſts were, however, immediately recovered and preſerved by the brave and ſpirited conduct of the Britiſh guards, and of Salm's infantry; of the former, in particular, I cannot expreſs myſelf in terms of ſufficient commendation: Each of theſe corps had two officers ſlightly wounded.

The intentions of the enemy againſt our poſition between Cuylenberg and Rhenen being now manifeſt, the right wing of the army effected its retreat on the night of the 15th to Amerſort and its environs; the remainder of our poſition including the Grep, is ſtill occupied by Gen. Hammerſtein, who will remain till to-morrow, or the day after, if poſſible. This day we will march to Apeldorem, where the army will reſt one day, and on the following we ſhall croſs the Yſſel.

WALMODEN.

Head-quarters, Voorthuiſen, Jan. 16.

SIR, I have the honour to inform your R. Highneſs, that on the 14th the enemy attacked all our out-poſts between the Leck and the Waal in force. They were however, repulſed on every point, eſpecially by the picquets oppoſite Rhenen, upon which they advanced in very ſuperior numbers. The conduct of the guards and other corps, whoſe piquets were engaged, was as ſteady as it was ſpirited; and I am happy to add, their loſs was trifling, Col. Leſlie and Capt. Wheatley were ſlightly wounded, and about twenty men wounded and miſſing; none killed. The poſts of Eck and Maurik, in front of Amerongen, were afterwards drawn in, but without loſs. The enemy likewiſe made a ſlight attack towards Arnheim, but without further effect than obliging the poſt of Elden to fall back nearer the river.

In conſequence of the arrangements which were taken, the army began their march on the night of the 14th, and have continued it without the leaſt interruption from the enemy.

We have ſucceeded in getting off the ſick, all but about 300, whoſe caſes will not admit

admit of removal, and with whom I have left proper officers and attendants, with recommendatory letters to the French General, and a ſufficient ſum of money to ſupply their wants at preſent. The wounded officers have all been got off; and, I truſt, a very ſmall proportion of ſtores and ammunition will be left. I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect, &c. WM HARCOURT.

P. S. As the meſſenger goes through Holland, and I do not know how far he he may do it with ſafety, in a public character, I have judged it neceſſary that he ſhould take only ſuch letters as he can put in his pocket, and have therefore deferred ſending the army-letters.

(*End of the Gazettes.*)

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

NORTHERN FRONTIER.

The attempts of the enemy to croſs the Maeſe and the Waal, being favoured by the froſt ſetting in with uncommon ſeverity, they effected this object on the night of the 25th December, with a conſiderable force, as appears by Gen. Harcourt's diſpatches. *Vide Lon. Gaz. p.* 53.

Before nine in the morning Fort St Andre was abandoned; the Dutch troops, as well from that fort as from other parts of the Waard, retired as well as they could to Bommel, where there was an action with the enemy; but as the place was not tenable, part of the troops fixed themſelves over the Waal, and the reſt ſurrendered priſoners of war; among the latter was part of the regiments of Orange Friſeland, de Rous, the grenadier battalion of Hohenlohe, and a diviſion of Swiſs; the French took ſix gun boats, which were faſt in the ice, together with two veſſels which ſerved as hoſpitals; they then paſſed the Waal at Thiel, oppoſite Bommel, which cauſed great confuſion among the people inhabiting Thielewaard, numbers of whom fled to Gorinchem, Cuylenberg, and Vinnen. The alarm and conſternation which this attack occaſioned was inconceivably great, and the moſt ſerious apprehenſions were entertained for the ſafety of Amſterdam and the reſt of Holland. Suſpicions were entertained of the fidelity and valour of the Dutch forces appointed for the defence of theſe poſts; and that the inclinations of the inhabitants of the provinces were not averſe to a viſit from their new maſters.

Negociations were for ſome time, carried on between the French republic and that of Holland, relative to a peace, but which, from events, appears never to have been ſeriouſly intended on the part of the former. Commiſſioners from the Dutch were ſent to Paris, they arrived at Bois-le-duc and had received paſs-ports from Bellegarde, national repreſentative, and General Pichegru; the operations of the French armies ſoon indicated that not peace but the entire conqueſt of Holland was their object. The allied forces had ſucceſsfully defended the paſſage of the Waal, and of the Rhine againſt the attempts of the French to force their way into the province of Holland: and, had not the froſt ſet in, even with unknown ſeverity in that country, the ſafety of the remaining provinces would have been ſecured. The firſt attempts to croſs on the ice were repelled by the arms of the allies, in ſeveral engagements, in which the military ſkill and valour of the Britiſh forces were eminently conſpicuous. The French General pouring in his numbers, both with courage and ſyſtematic arrangement, rendered every effort of reſiſtance fruitleſs. It was therefore neceſſary on the part of the allies to retreat with as great ſafety and expedition as poſſible.

While theſe events were going forwards among the forces, the inhabitants of the towns in Holland were agitated with terror, or with hope, according to their different ſentiments. The new ſyſtem that was likely to be introduced had many abettors, who expected with impatience to ſee their conquerors at their gates; terms of capitulation were drawn up, and the keys were ready to be delivered into the hands of the French General, but who haughtily required that unconditional ſubmiſſion, he was enabled completely to enforce. By the 17th the Britiſh army in their route for Germany had croſſed the Yſſel, the cities of Utrecht, Goreum, Dort, and Rotterdam had received the French amidſt acclamations of joy. Attempts that were made to carry off or deſtroy the Dutch ſhipping was zealouſly oppoſed by their partizans among the inhabitants. Many who had fled and put their valuable effects on board, to go to other countries, were prevented by the veſſels being frozen in. To increaſe the diſaſter the Zuyder ſea was frozen up, where the men-of-war were lying, which had not happened for more than a century paſt.

The Princeſſes of the Houſe of Orange took their departure for Britain, and intentions appearing of a deſign to ſeize upon the

the Stadtholder, to bring him to trial, feeing all hopes of living his country loft, he, with his gallant for the Hereditary Prince, embarked at Helvoetluys, and, in an open boat, January 21ft, landed at Harwich in England.

About the fame time the Fort of the Rhine was evacuated and yielded up to the French, to fave the city of Mannheim from a bombardment. Grave was compelled to furrender after a gallant defence by its commander De Bons a Swifs officer.

GERMANY.

The propofition for peace was brought before the three Colleges of the Empire at Ratifbon, on the 5th of December. The propofition was accordingly made in all three, and in the two firft, that of the Electors and that of the Princes, they proceeded to collect the fuffrages. That of Palatine Bavaria was the moft ample, and at the fame time moft in favour of the pacification; that which was the moft contrary was the Electoral fuffrage of Brunfwick Hanover; the declaration of the Electoral Minifter of Hanover, Baron d'Ompteda, was in fubftance, "that His Britannic Majefty, in quality of Elector of Hanover, could not give his voice in favour of the pacificatory propofition made on the part of Mentz; that it only belonged to the Emperor as chief of the Empire, and not to the Elector of Mentz, to make fuch a propofition; that in the prefent fituation of affairs there could be no queftions of overtures for peace; that they ought rather to prepare for a new campaign with united forces, which they fhould unanimoufly agree to augment; that the Comitial Minifter fhould make a declaration to that effect, at the firft feffions, a declaration conformable to that which he has already made from the firft deliberation, upon the propofition of Mentz, when he explained that his Court, could not take any part in it," &c.

All that can be concluded from this declaration is, that the Electoral Court, in concert with that of London, could not approve of the Germanic body endeavouring to get out of the war without conful ting the intentions of England: Nevertheleis this, as was expected, is not the difpofition of the plurality of the members. The Auftrian Minifter feemed to wait to fee the turn which the deliberations would take; not having received definite inftructions, he deferred giving his fuffrage, as did feveral other Miniters in the College of the Princes.

The diet at Ratifbon terminated not only in lefs time, but with more harmony, than it was at firft thought it would do. The advice of the Empire, conceived in conlequence, contains four articles, the fubftance of which is, 'That the exifting circumftances require [illegible], conformably to the decree of the Empire, vigorous preparations are [illegible] for another campaign, ferious overtures fhould be, at the fame time, made for a juft and proper peace; a peace in which, it is hoped, that France will always confider, that fhe was the occafion of the war, which the Empire only undertook to defend its rights and privileges, of which feveral of its members were defpoiled without their ever having any thought of meddling in the interior affairs of France, or preferibing any form of government to that nation, &c.'

LONDON.

Accounts from the Continent are the moft melancholy, in regard to the general fcarcity which prevails over Europe. In Hungary and Bohemia, as well as in Turkey, there is a pofitive famine; and Poland, which ufed to be the granary of that part of the world, fo far from affording relief, is in the moft pitiable ftate of want, in conlequence of the ravages which have been perpetrated.—Even Holland itfelf is ill provided, and, amidft all its other alarms, has to dread the approach of a famine.

Sweden has prohibited the exportation of corn under fevere penalties.

The Generals Mikowini and Helfter, have been carried to Vienna in chains, to account, before a Court Martial; the firft for the cowardly furrender of Valenciennes, at a time when he had reafon to expect affiftance, and the fecond for the equally bafe furrender of Conde.

A Mr Jay hath arrived at Calcutta, in quality of a Conful from the United States of America.

The Senate of Venice hath returned an anfwer, full of profeffions of regard to the French republic, on their addrefs, recommending as envoy, Citizen Lallemand.

There are at prefent at Portfmouth 5000 French prifoners, and fo unabated is the fpirit of Republicanifm, in that people, that only 50 have been prevailed on to enter in the Emigrant corps.

At a meeting of Roman Catholics held at Dublin, Dec. 30. Mr Edward Byrne in the chair, they prepared a petition to be prefented

preſented to Parliament, "praying for a total repeal of the penal and reſtrictive laws ſtill exiſting againſt the Catholics of Ireland." They reſolved, that the Rt Hon. Mr Grattan be requeſted to preſent the ſame to the Houſe of Commons, in the enſuing ſeſſion of Parliament.

At a court of Aldermen held at Guildhall, Dec. 31. the Lord Mayor was requeſted to wait upon the Secretary of State, and repreſent, as the opinion of the Court, that, from the progreſſive riſe in the prices of wheat and flour, in ſo early a part of the ſeaſon, proper meaſures ſhould be adopted to prevent the probability of a ſcarcity before the next harveſt.

Commodore Payne, appointed to bring over the Princeſs of Wales elect, returned with his ſquadron to Sheerneſs, having been out three days, not thinking he could ſufficiently enſure the ſafety of the Princeſs of Wales venturing over in this ſevere ſeaſon of the year. She had ſet out with her ſuite for England; but, from the ſtate of things in Holland, meſſengers were ſent requeſting her to return to Brunſwick.

Jan. 1. At four o'clock the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, attended by the Officers of the Houſe, Chaplain, and ſeveral Members, arrived at St James's with the Addreſs, which was preſented to the King on the throne, ſeveral Lords and Ladies of the Court being preſent.

The following is his Majeſty's Anſwer to the Addreſs of the Houſe of Lords. "My Lords, I thank you for this very loyal and dutiful Addreſs, and particularly for your congratulation to me on the approaching marriage of my ſon the Prince of Wales. The expreſſions of your zeal for the honour of my Crown, and for the proſperity and ſafety of my people, and your aſſurances of concurrence and ſupport in that line of conduct from which alone, in the actual ſituation of affairs, we can derive either preſent ſecurity or future tranquility, cannot but be highly ſatisfactory to me. The firmneſs and perſeverance of Parliament, and the ſpirit and energy of my people, will, I doubt not, lead to a proſperous and ſucceſsful termination of this great conteſt."

Major Semple, the noted ſwindler, was lately examined before Mr Juſtice Bond, the charges againſt him were borrowing money, procuring clothes, and various articles, under fictitious names; he declined ſaying any thing in defence. This extraordinary adventurer has experienced all the viciſſitudes of fortune in moſt parts of the world. After being liberated from the Hulks, he went abroad and entered into the French ſervice, in which he ranked high, and had a command at Paris when the late unfortunate King was ſentenced to die, and was one of thoſe who conducted him to the ſcaffold; from the French army he deſerted to the Allies, and obtained, by his courage as a ſoldier, the rank of Major in the Dutch army, having ſignalized himſelf on ſeveral occaſions. When his real character was diſcovered, he was ſuffered to depart, and retain his commiſſion.

11. Sir John Jervis arrived in the Boyne of 98 guns, from the Weſt Indies. Sir Charles Grey came home as paſſenger in her. When the Boyne left the Weſt Indies, the French captured iſlands were all ſafe. The French had made ſeveral attempts to ſtorm Fort Matilda, at Guadaloupe, but hitherto without ſucceſs. The Ramilies of 74 guns, with Gen. Vaughan on board; the Majeſtic of 74 guns, Admiral Caldwell; Theſeus of 74 guns, Capt. Calder; and Bellona of 74 guns, Capt. Wilſon, were arrived at Guadaloupe; but no Britiſh troops had reached the iſland from any quarter at the time the Boyne ſailed; nor does it appear that any French men of war, or troops from Europe, had arrived in the Weſt Indies. The fever which had raged in the iſland ſo long, to ſuch an alarming degree, was conſiderably abated, and the troops and inhabitants are getting much more healthy.

14. A proclamation for a general faſt was made, to be obſerved in England on the 25th February, and in Scotland on the 26th.

In purſuance of the ſentence of a court martial held on board his Majeſty's ſhip Stately, the Hon. Admiral Cornwallis Preſident, the following men were executed on board the Culloden, for being the principals concerned in the mutiny on board that ſhip, viz. Francis Watts, Cornelius Sullivan, Jeremiah Curtain, John Johnſon, and Joſeph Collins; they behaved very penitently, and admitted the juſtneſs of their ſentence.

The prize money for the ſhips taken on the 1ſt June began paying by Lieutenant Bowen: The Admirals' ſhare is 1700l.; Captains, 1400l.; Lieutenants, 106l.; Warrant Officers, 69l. each.

The French grand fleet, conſiſting of upwards of thirty ſail of the line, on the 16th December, ſailed from Breſt on a cruize, chiefly to protect their Baltic fleet coming home, as they are in great want of naval ſtores. It returned on the 27th, but ſailed again on the 29th. On its re-

turn, the Revolutionaire, of 110 guns, ſtruck upon a rock on the entrance into Breſt Water, and was loſt. It was replaced by another ſhip of the line, which had been got ready during the time the fleet was out. The fleet, when it laſt ſailed, conſiſted of thirty-three ſail of the line, and 20 frigates; and is commanded by Villaret de joyeuſe, with two commiſſioners of the National Convention on board.

18. A moſt dreadful fire happened at Liverpool. At five o'clock the Exchange, (the nobleſt building of the kind without exception, of any in the kingdom) was diſcovered to be on fire, the inſide of which was entirely deſtroyed in leſs than two hours; with the greateſt difficulty the town records, books, maces, ſwords, &c. were preſerved from the flames, though kept at the oppoſite ſide of the building from where the fire broke out, ſo rapid was its progreſs.

The 19th, being the day appointed for the public celebration of her Majeſty's birth-day, was kept as an holiday, and the uſual demonſtrations of joy were diſplayed. The marking character of the dreſs for the day was, that the gentlemen were chiefly in military uniform, ſhewing thereby the ſtate of the country; and the ladies in velvet.

21. The Lord Mayor held a Court of Common Council, at which were preſent the recorder, ſixteen aldermen, the ſheriffs, and about two hundred commoners. A motion for an addreſs to his Majeſty to terminate the preſent war, was moved for by Alderman Newman, and ſeconded by Mr Deputy Brewer. An amendment, expreſſive of confidence in his Majeſty's endeavours to terminate it, whenever it could be done conſiſtently with the honour and dignity of the State, was moved for by Mr Deputy Birch. Long debates enſued, and a very warm conteſt took place, which motion ſhould be adopted, when at length the Deputy carried his amendment, on a diviſion, one hundred and forty-three againſt forty-ſeven. A committee was then appointed to draw up an addreſs, which being done after ſome few objections being made, was agreed to, and the ſheriffs were deſired to wait on his Majeſty to know when the Court may attend him therewith.

Apartments in Hampton Court have been prepared for the family of the Prince of Orange.

29. This evening ſailed from Spithead, with a fine and freſh wind at N. E. the grand fleet of England, commanded by the gallant veteran Lord Howe; at the time the letters left Portſmouth, they were almoſt out of ſight. The ſhips are all in the moſt perfect trim, completely manned, and victualled for four months. They conſiſt of thirty-ſix ſail of the line, and ten frigates. The enemy's ſhips are no doubt crowded with a ſuperior number of hands, which alone, compoſed as they are chiefly of landmen, is not to be conſidered as any advantage. On board the Britiſh fleet there are comparatively more regular bred ſailors than on any former occaſion. The enemy's fleet, neither in ſhips of the line, nor weight of metal, are conſidered by the moſt correct accounts as equal to the Engliſh: of frigates they have a double number.

We learn from Whitehaven, that Keſwick Lake was ſo completely frozen on the firſt day of this year, that a perſon walked acroſs it from Pocklington's Iſland to the town. It has not been in ſuch a ſtate ſince February 1788.

Baſſenthwaite Lake is alſo frozen, and a very melancholy accident happened there on the evening of the 1ſt inſt. A party of gentlemen had continued the diverſion of ſkaiting upon it through the greater part of the day; towards the evening, ſome of them propoſed leaving the ice, but ſome others choſe to purſue it longer, as the evening was remarkably fine, and the moon-light made it particularly pleaſant. Some ſprings had appeared in the courſe of the afternoon, but the day-light expoſed them ſufficiently to prevent the experienced ſkaiter from approaching them too near; Dr Head, of Cockermouth, unfortunately ſunk into one of them;—a young man, ſervant to Joſeph Hoſkins, Eſq; of the High, was amongſt the firſt who took the alarm, and ran to his aſſiſtance. His eagerneſs proved fatal to himſelf; venturing too near the edge of the broken ice, he plunged in, and fell a ſacrifice to his own humanity, for he was not ſeen afterwards. Dr Head was (almoſt miraculouſly) preſerved by the intrepid and unwearied exertions of his friend, Mr Dixon of Cockermouth, whoſe brave humanity, in the moſt imminent danger, is beyond all praiſe.

At a convened meeting of the freemen of the town of Carliſle, it was reſolved to adopt ſuch meaſures as may tend to the reſtoration of peace, and to inſtruct their repreſentatives on the ſubject. There were only four diſſenting voices. On the ſame day, a petition of a ſimilar nature was adopted by the principal inhabitants of

of that city. A number of the inhabitants, however, and gentlemen in the neighbourhood, have entered a *proteſt* againſt the meaſure, ſtating, that though they are equally anxious for an honourable peace as the petitioners, and equally zealous for the intereſts of the country, yet they conceive this meaſure to be improper, and are convinced, that petitions of ſuch a nature, at the preſent moment, can tend only to clog the wheels of Government, encourage the common enemy, and protract the attainment of the very object which they profeſs to advance; and they are confident, that the wiſdom of the legiſlature will purſue ſuch meaſures as may be moſt expedient to promote the public welfare, and ſecure the happineſs of the country. The ſignatures to this proteſt, on Saturday evening, amounted to near *fourteen hundred*.

The whole Dutch navy is nearly of the following force: One ſhip of 76 guns, three of 70, four of 68, five of 60, eight of 56, four of 50, five of 44, nine of 40, and ten of 36, making altogether *forty-nine*, beſides ſeveral veſſels of inferior force. But we underſtand, that they are, in general, much decayed and out of repair.

ESCAPE OF MR WESTLEY.

As ſoon as his ſiſter, Lady Ann Fitzroy, was ſet at liberty, he, in concert with 13 other priſoners, formed a plan for their eſcape. After many difficulties, they got to the ſhore at about ſix o'clock on Saturday evening the 10th, where Mr Weſtley purchaſed an open boat, belonging to a neutral veſſel, which lay in the harbour; and after putting on board ſuch proviſions as they might want, they ſet ſail about ſeven o'clock: they were not moleſted in the leaſt in their paſſage out of Breſt Water; the ſea at this time ran ſo very high, that, in ſpite of ſpirits, of which they all drank occaſionally, they appeared to have no proſpect before them but that of periſhing. Early on Sunday morning the boat pitched extremely, and, from a ſudden guſt of wind, which had nearly overſet them, one of the men unfortunately fell overboard; every attempt was made to ſave him but in vain, they were at laſt obliged to leave him to his fate. They continued watching all Sunday for the firſt land they could diſcover; they had a compaſs on board, but were under the neceſſity of ſteering the boat in ſuch a direction as beſt to ſecure her ſafety; the ſea running very high, and the boat ſhipping ſo much water, that it was neceſſary for every man, that was not ſo benumbed as not to be able to work, to be conſtantly employed in bailing her. In the courſe of Sunday one of the men was abſolutely frozen to death; and, at no long interval afterwards, two others ſhared the ſame fate; and by this time every man in the boat was ſo benumbed as ſcarcely to be able to move. In this ſtate, it ſeemed only doubtful whether the intenſeneſs of the cold, or the boiſterouſneſs of the element to which they had entruſted themſelves, ſhould put an end to their exiſtence; when one of the men, at the cloſe of the evening, on Sunday, deſcried the land, and as the night cloſed in, they diſcovered diſtinctly ſome lights, for which they ſteered. Theſe proved to be the Deadman's lights, which were immediately known by one of the men, who was a native of Cornwall; and at eleven o'clock on Sunday night they arrived at Mevagiſſey, in ſo weak and exhauſted a ſtate, as to require conſiderable aſſiſtance in landing from the boat.

DUBLIN.

Jan. 4. At noon, his excellency the Earl of Fitzwilliam landed from on board the Dorſet yacht at Balbriggen; about four he arrived at the Rt Hon. William Brabazon Ponſonby's houſe in Henrietta-ſtreet, from whence, after ſome time ſpent in refreſhment and dreſſing, he proceeded in the uſual ſtate to the Caſtle, and was ſworn into office. Next day, at one o'clock, the Earl of Weſtmoreland had a levee at the Caſtle, previous to his embarkation for England. At half paſt three the levee ended, and Lord Weſtmoreland took leave of his friends, and repaired to embark for England at the Pigeon-houſe, followed, in their carriages, by the few nobility and gentry who attended the levee. His Lordſhip was eſcorted by a ſquadron of horſe, and embarked on board the Ducheſs of Rutland packet boat for England. The principal ſtreets of the city were illuminated laſt Sunday evening, to compliment Lord Fitzwilliam on his arrival.

22. Earl Fitzwilliam opened the Seſſion of Parliament, when an addreſs was voted unanimouſly by the Houſe of Peers; and in the Houſe of Commons, with only two diſſenting voices, to ſupport his Majeſty in the preſent war.

EDINBURGH.

Jan. 1. The Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, marched in proceſſion to St Andrew's Church, when a very elegant and public ſpirited diſcourſe, was preached by the Rev. Dr Baird, Chaplain to the Corps,

and Principal of the University of Edinburgh, from Isaiah xli. verse 6. 'They helped every one his neighbour, and every one said to his brother, be of good courage.' The Rev. Principal began with taking a view of courage as a religious, a moral, and a political virtue, and then pointed out the nature and advantages of beneficence. He took a summary view of the French Constitution, and pointed out the miseries it had entailed upon that unhappy nation. He contrasted it with the excellence of the British Constitution, and paid many handsome and just compliments to the public spirit of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, who had stood forth with so much alacrity for its defence. The anthem of 'Hallelujah!' was sung after the sermon: and after the service, 'God save the King,' was sung in full chorus by the Volunteers and the congregation. The Lord Provost, Magistrates and Council, walked to the church in their robes. The Volunteers, occupied the galleries. The body of the church was filled with ladies and gentlemen, of the first fashion in town. The Volunteers made a very handsome and soldier-like appearance. A liberal collection was made at the church door for the poor. The church was crouded in every part, and a vast concourse of ladies and gentlemen came, but could not get admittance for want of room. The collection at the church doors amounted to 67l. Messrs Kerr, Coulter, and Wright, late Magistrates of this city, were appointed a committee, by the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers, to see the money applied, and these gentlemen have disposed of it in the following manner, viz. 40l. to the industrious poor; 10l. to the destitute sick; 10l. to the widows and children of soldiers; and 5l. to the poor prisoners in the tolbooth of Edinburgh.

4. This evening an excellent sermon was preached for the benefit of the industrious blind, by the Rev. Mr Cleeve, in his own chapel, when a liberal collection was made; being L.36: 10: 2. The Asylum is now moved to a much more commodious and healthy house, in the Castle-hill, which was the late Lord Coalston's, where the various manufactures of the blind, such as mats, baskets, oakum, matresses, &c. are sold.

— Lord Dundas marched at the head of the whole regiment of the York North Riding militia, about five miles to the north of Berwick, where the boundary between the two kingdoms is fixed; when the line was formed, and the colours fixed upon Scottish ground, the band played 'God save the King.' This is the first English militia that ever was drawn up in Scotland.

The new bridge over the river South Esk, at Montrose, is now so complete, that, on Friday the 2d inst. a company from the north, passed along it, for the first time, with a post chaise.

15. This day the Special Commission Court of Oyer and Terminer met in the Parliament House, agreeable to last adjournment, and again adjourned till Tuesday the 10th of February next.

On Sunday a further respite for one month arrived for David Downie, under sentence of death for high treason.

Monday last, as three persons were skaiting on Loch Leven, near Kinross, the ice suddenly gave way, and they were unfortunately drowned. Their bodies were found on Tuesday.

— This morning, between twelve and one o'clock, a fire broke out in a grocer's shop at the head of Blackfriars Wynd. As this tenement, and the one immediately adjoining, are both constructed of wood, the most serious consequences were apprehended.—Luckily, however, by immediate assistance, and an ample supply of water, it was soon extinguished, without materially damaging any part of the building, except the one where it began. It is but justice to mention, that a great number of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers attended, and gave a very timeous assistance, in preserving the property of the sufferers, as well as in extinguishing the fire.

On Friday the 10th, a fire broke out in the house of James Dewar, at the Bridge of Earn, near Perth. The fire made such a rapid progress, that several houses were burnt down, in a very little time, to the bare walls, and only a part of the furniture saved.

— This day a general meeting of the Highland Society was held in their Hall, which was attended by upwards of sixty members. It gave much satisfaction to find, from the proceedings of the Committee of Directors, and reports of subcommittees, that the money voted by the Society for premiums last year, had been adjudged to the proper objects of the institution, particularly the premiums given for the introduction of useful manufactures, and improvements in agriculture; in the rearing and mending of the breed of black cattle and sheep; and for the encourage-

courageement held out and given to authors of eſſays of merit, on the ſubjects advertiſed by this Society; and particularly, in adjudging to Dr John Smyth, miniſter of Campbeltown, the higheſt premium, on his very important and well written eſſay, on ſo eſſential an article of agriculture as the *watering of ground*. And the meeting highly approved of a motion made by Sir Alexander Ramſay, and adopted by the Directors, for bringing from England, at the expence of the Society, a perſon of ſkill, and well qualified for directing the proper mode of watering and draining; and remitted to the Committee of Directors to pay particular attention to this matter. The Society voted, as uſual, a ſum to be laid out by the Directors for the preſent year, in premiums to the authors of eſſays of merit, on ſubjects relating to the objects of the Society, and for promoting agriculture and manufactures.

A few days ſince the wife of John Beauchamp, of Wrington, Somerſetſhire, was ſafely delivered of her twentieth child. It is remarkable, that, before they had been married eight years, ſhe had thirteen children. The ſole dependance of the family's ſupport is on the huſband, who is a labourer, and has but a ſhilling a day.

17. The gold medal, given by the Honourable Company of Golfers, was played for on Leith Links, and won by Mr Robert Allan, banker in Edinburgh.

On the 21ſt, A fiſhing boat was loſt between Kirkcaldy and Weſter Wemyſs. The crew, five in number, it is feared have periſhed.

22. The court martial which has ſat in the Caſtle upon the mutineers of the Breadalbane fencibles is now over. There have been eight priſoners tried, on three ſeparate charges; but the ſentences are not known till reported either to his Majeſty, or the commander in chief, who, in this country, is inveſted with the ſame powers as his Majeſty, with regard to the ſentences of courts martial. The event has ſhown, that four were found guilty.—On the 27th, at 10 o'clock, the four priſoners who had been adjudged to ſuffer death for the crimes of mutiny and diſobedience, were taken from the Caſtle in two mourning coaches, attended by the Rev. Mr Robertſon M'Gregor, and under an eſcort of the 3d regiment of dragoons, and a detachment of the 3d battalion of the Scotch Brigade; they marched to the ſands near Muſſelburgh, where the eſcort was joined by ſeveral corps, and detachments of cavalry and infantry, all under the command of Major Gen. Sir James Stewart. The ſentence of the court martial was then read to the priſoners, with the general orders given out by Lord Adam Gordon, approving of the proceedings of the ſaid court martial, and directing the ſentence to be carried into execution againſt Alexander Sutherland, or Sandiſon, the moſt guilty of the offenders, but ſuſpending the ſentence of the other priſoners until his Majeſty's pleaſure ſhould be known. The priſoner, Sutherland, was then ſhot to death by a party of the regiment to which he belonged, and the other priſoners were remanded to Edinburgh Caſtle, eſcorted as in the morning. It is but doing juſtice to the corps and detachments, aſſembled on this ſolemn occaſion, to ſay, that they behaved with the greateſt propriety. Sutherland was a native of Caithneſs. He met his fate with becoming penitence and fortitude.

26. The Theatre opened this evening, for the ſeaſon, with Shakeſpeare's comedy of the *Merchant of Venice*.

The Surpriſe tranſport, with Skirving, Palmer, Muir, Margarot, &c. on board, for Botany Bay, arrived at Rio de Janiero on the 2d of July laſt.

In conſequence of the embargo laid on by Government, the Dutch frigate of 44 guns, which has been for ſome time in Leith roads, is detained.

On Thurſday there was an extraordinary meeting of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce here, in conſequence of a letter which the Lord Provoſt had received from Mr Secretary Dundas, and which his Lordſhip communicated to the Chamber, reſpecting the manning of the navy, and requeſting the ſentiments of the mercantile people in this place upon the moſt ſpeedy and effectual way of doing ſo, with the leaſt injury to trade. The Directors agreed to ſend one of their number to London, and Mr Andrew Caſſils merchant in Leith was appointed for that purpoſe. It is ſuppoſed that ſimilar delegations will be ſent from all the principal ports in the iſland; by which means Government will obtain ſuch a range of information upon the ſubject, as will enable them not only to know the real ſtrength of the country, in the maritime department, but to form the beſt plan of calling it forth.

Two of the tranſports with Col. Macnamara's regiment on board, have been captured in their paſſage from Limmerick

rick to Briſtol. Seven officers, and 130 privates were on board.

29. The magiſtrates have ordered 100 guineas from the city's funds, to aid the charitable fund, which has been conducted with ſo much propriety and humanity by them, and a Committee of the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers. Three thouſand people have already been relieved, from the above fund, with meal and other neceſſaries. Above one hundred men are employed by the Magiſtrates in clearing the ſtreets; a ſeaſonable relief to them, as all other work out of doors is ſuſpended.

It is with pleaſure we record the very liberal bounties and donations of various kinds going on over all the country, for the ſupport and relief of the poor and deſtitute, during this uncommonly ſevere ſeaſon. We truſt that, on the part of receivers, it will call for ſuitable returns of gratitude and ſubmiſſion.

On the 21ſt inſtant, a woman was found in a field at Middlecoats, near Edinburgh, ſuppoſed to have periſhed betwixt Monday night and Tueſday morning, from the inclemency of the weather. Thurſday morning, a farmer's ſervant, coming to town, found two pigeons on the lower branch of a tree frozen to death.

In the Philoſophical Tranſactions there is an account of a family, conſiſting of eight or nine people, who, by a violent wind at the time of a deep ſnow, ſome years ago, were buried under a drift for more than five weeks. They had ſome goats in the cottage, and upon goat's milk they ſubſiſted part of the time: when the animals gave no milk, they killed them, and lived upon their fleſh until the ſnow melted, and they burſt into day. Their neighbours had dug into the ſnow in many places round the hill; but, trees and all other land-marks being covered, they had never found the right ſpot. During the whole time of their confinement, they knew the approach of day by the crowing of the cocks in the neighbouring cottages.

The Dumfries ſubſcription for the wounded ſeamen, &c. who fought under Lord Howe on the 1ſt of June, amounts to 63 l. 13s.

Upon new year's day, *three hundred and ſeven* of the children employed by David Dale, Eſq; at his cotton mills, New Lanark, walked in proceſſion, preceded by muſic, from thence to the town of Lanark, when they drew up at the croſs, amidſt a vaſt number of ſpectators, and were ſaluted by the ringing of the bells; a bowl of punch being provided, was drunk in healths to the magiſtrates and burgh of Lanark, and proſperity to the works at New Lanark: they then returned to the mills, where dinner was immediately ſerved up to them, after which, they all removed to a large hall, where they enjoyed the day in dancing and conviviality.

Accounts from Comrie, Perthſhire, ſtate, that, about ten minutes before two o'clock in the morning of the 2d, they were again viſited with a very ſmart ſhock of an earthquake; the moſt ſenſible and alarming of any ever felt in that place. The trembling noiſe with which it was accompanied was wonderfully loud and tremendous, but did not continue ſo long as uſual; inſtead of ſeeming, as formerly, only an accompaniment of the ſhock, it was ſeemingly produced by the motion of the earth. The noiſe awaked the greater part of the inhabitants, and the ſhock was felt, at the moſt moderate calculation, for twenty miles round!

During the year 1794—138 ſhips have arrived at London from Peterſburgh—40 at Dundee—22 at Leith—10 at Montroſe 8 at Greenock—6 at Grangemouth—7 at Arbroath, and 21 at the other ports in Scotland.

The total number of veſſels arrived in England from Peterſburgh in 1794 were 303—In Scotland 113—In Ireland 50—in America 43—In foreign ports 13.

COINS FOUND.

On the forenoon of the 10th, as ſome workmen were leveling the ground in the ſouth end of Taylor's-ſtreet, Glaſgow, north ſide of the Rottenrow, where an old ruinous houſe formerly ſtood, they dug up, with a pick-ax, an earthen pot, ſuppoſed to contain nearly a Scotch pint, full of gold coins of different ſizes, the number uncertain, as the workmen and by-ſtanders had a *precious* ſcramble; but, by all accounts, 800 or 900, or probably more. A gentleman who had acceſs to ſee a few of them, has favoured us with the following brief account:—Of the Scotch coins, he found of James III. and IV. thoſe gold pieces known by the name of the Unicorn, and its half, the Ryder of James IV. with his title—Coins of James V. and alſo of Queen Mary. Theſe were the only varieties that appeared of the Scotch coins.—Of the Engliſh coins there were ſeveral, moſtly the pieces called Angels, of Henry VI. the coinage of his 49th year; and one of Henry VIII. There appear to be ſeveral foreign coins; ſuch as French, Spaniſh, Portugueſe, German, Imperial, and

and Popiſh among them.—As none of the coins yet examined appear to be later than thoſe of Queen Mary of Scotland, it is probable that they had been depoſited during the troubles in her reign.

We have not, perhaps, ſince the year 1740, experienced a track of ſeverer weather than this month has afforded. The froſt has continued with little abatement till the end, ſome days relaxing a little, but never with any ſymptoms of thaw. The thermometer has ſeveral days been at 18°; and, on the morning of the 22d, we believe, was ſo low as 7°. One ſtorm of ſnow has ſucceeded another, ſo that in many places, it lies upon the fields from 2 to 3 feet deep. We have heard of no remarkable accidents, there being little wind while the ſnow fell. The fall was chiefly from the eaſt, ſo that in the weſt part of the iſland it is not ſo deep. The roads, in many places, have been for ſeveral days impaſſable; and the labouring claſs have every where experienced great hardſhips, but the bounty of the more wealthy has every where been ſhown. The prices of proviſions have not been much advanced. Beef is to be had very good at 4d. and mutton at 5d. per pound. The herrings have been on the coaſt all the month, and ſold at 1d. per dozen. There has been occaſionally conſiderable ſupplies of haddocks from the weſt. Salmon 1s. 6d. And that indiſpenſible article coals, have been plenty, and at the uſual prices.

We beg to remind our readers of a precaution, which is now very generally known, with reſpect to vegetables, viz. thawing them; that is, to allow them to ly for a conſiderable time in cold water, before they are uſed: this ſhould be alſo done to animal food that has ſuffered from the froſt.

The Engliſh agricultural report for December ſtates, that the ſeverity of the weather through the principal part of this month, confined the out-door operations in agriculture to little more than the carting of dung and compoſt, and cutting down hallow hedges, preparatory to making new fences. The deep ſtapled lands will find great benefit from the ſharpneſs of the froſt; for, independently of the meliorration of the ſoil, it muſt conſiderably deſtroy the wire worm and ſlug, which the mildneſs of paſt winters had ſo much increaſed. The wheat, in almoſt every diſtrict of the kingdom, is found to threſh badly, and to riſe even below the ſcanty produce ſtated in laſt month's report. This will be found the principal cauſe of the riſe of bread and corn, and, it is much to be feared, muſt occaſion a ſtill greater ſcarcity. Barley, beans, peaſe, and every other article of the pulſe kind, ſtill continue dear, from the ſame fatality, viz. the ungenial ſeaſon of 1794. Oats prove the beſt ſpring crop almoſt univerſally. Wool has taken a ſtart this month, on the ſpeculative proſpect of a peace. The flocks of the well country ewes are lambing down well in general. Smithfield has been ſo ſcantily ſupplied with Chriſtmas beef, that prime bullocks were ſold as high as 5s. per ſtone, and the butchers could not ſupply half their cuſtomers even at this price. Veal and pork are equally dear. The counties of Suſſex, Norfolk, and Eſſex, have, at this time, conſiderable droves of Welch, Scotch, and ſhort horned lean beaſts up; but the weather has not yet produced much abatement in their high prices.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

Lately, at Bellinter, county of Meath, Ireland, the Hon. Henry Forbes, brother to the Earl of Granard, to Miſs E. Preſton, ſiſter to John Preſton, Eſq; M. P. for the borough of Navan.

Lately, Mr James Miller, widower, and landlord of the Leather Bottle, in Little Laver, Eſſex, to Mrs Mary Benner, widow. The ages of this loving couple amounts to 127; the bridegroom being 67, and the bride 60.

Dec. 26. Rt Hon. Lord Cormanſtown, to the Hon. Miſs Southwell, daughter of Lord Southwell.

At Stanmer, in Suſſex, the Rt Hon. Lord Sheffield, to the Hon. Miſs Lucy Pelham, daughter of Lord Pelham.

27. At London, Charles Guſtaff, Baron Oxenſtierna, envoy-extraordinary from the court of Sweden to the court of Portugal, to Miſs Mary Ann Tomkins, daughter of the late Francis Tomkins, Eſq.

29. At Whitehaven, Mr O'Neil, Iriſh linen dealer, to Mrs Martha Hartley, widow. On the Monday following her huſband died; ſo the bride has been a wife, and twice a widow in the ſpace of a week.

Jan. — At Oban, Mr Hugh Stevenſon, tanner there, to Miſs Sufan Maclean, daughter to the late Capt. Hugh Maclean, Langamull.

At Glaſgow, Mr Robert Cowan, ſurgeon, to Miſs Helen M'Caul, daughter of the Rev. Dr M'Caul, one of the miniſters of Glaſgow.

12. At Glaſgow, the Rev. Mr John Douglas, miniſter of Stewarton, to Miſs Annabella Todd,

Todd, daughter of the deceased Mr William Todd, merchant in Glasgow.

— At Bath, Capt. Blackwood, of the royal navy, to Miss Crosbie, sister of John Crosbie, Esq; M. P. for the county of Kerry.

19. At Bellevue, near Edinburgh, Lord Downe, eldest son of the Earl of Moray, to Miss Lucy Scott, second daughter of the late Gen. Scott.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 6. At Edinburgh, Mrs Baugh, wife of Capt Baugh, a son.

7. At Edinburgh, Mrs Dewar of Vogrie, a daughter.

8. At Coat's House, in Fife, Mrs Lindesay, of Wormestone, a daughter.

— At Stevenson, East Lothian, the Lady of John Macleod of Colbecks, a son.

The Lady of Sir R. Crawford, Bart. of Jordanhill, a son.

20. Mrs Mure of Caldwell, a daughter.

23. At Caickmuire, Mrs Alexander Forbes, a daughter.

28. At Balgone, Lady Suttie, a daughter.

DEATHS.

In the East Indies, Sir William Jones, Bart. one of the Judges of the Supreme Court at Bengal. He was a good poet, and the public are indebted to him for many beautiful translations from the Persian language.

At Cuddalore, Colonel Hamilton Maxwell, brother to the Duchess of Gordon, and Lieut. Col. of the 74th regiment of foot. He commanded the grenadiers of the army under Lord Cornwallis, and acquired great honour in the war against Tippoo Sultan.

Lately, the Rt Hon. the Earl of Coleraine. He is succeeded by his brother, the Hon. Major Hanger.

On his passage from Jamaica to London, Mr John Lauder, son of Dr Colin Lauder, Edinburgh.

At London, the Rt Hon. Archibald Earl of Cassilis. He is succeeded by his son Archibald, Lord Kennedy. Vol. 54, p. 623.

At his seat, at Hackwood, Hants, aged 75, the Most Noble Harry Duke of Bolton, Marquis of Winchester, and premier Marquis of England, Vice-Admiral of Hampshire and Dorsetshire, and Admiral of the White. He succeeded to the title and estates July 5, 1765; and, the same year, intermarried with Catharine Lowther, sister to the Earl of Lonsdale, the present Duchess, by whom he had only two daughters—Catharine, now Countess of Darlington, and Lady Amelia Powlett. His Grace having died without male issue, the title of Duke of Bolton is extinct; but that of Marquis of Winchester devolves on George Powlett, Esq.

Jan. 1. Mr John Peadie, merchant in Leith.

2. At Glasgow, Mrs Paterson of Ballaird.

3. At Lochmaben, the Rev. Andrew Jaffray, D. D. minister of that parish.

— At his seat in Staffordshire, Mr Wedgewood, so well known for his improvement in the Staffordshire ware.

At London, the Rt Hon. the Earl of Sefton.

— At Litchfield, in his 84th year, Edward Sneyd, Esq; formerly Major of the horse guards.

4. At Aberdeen, Mrs Jane Gordon, relict of the Rev. Dr Duncan Shaw, one of the ministers of Aberdeen.

(*Remainder of the Deaths, &c. will be inserted next month.*)

PREFERMENTS.

The Earl of Westmoreland invested with ensigns of the Order of the Garter.

Hon. Frederick North, to be Secretary of State for the kingdom of Corsica.

The Rt Hon. Lord Cathcart, Vice Admiral of Scotland, in the room of Lord William Gordon, resigned.

Robert Shore Milnes, Esq; to be Governor of the island of Martinique.

Lieut. Gen. Sir Hector Munro, K. B. to be Lieutenant General, *vice* Leslie; and Major Gen. James Hamilton, to be Major General, *vice* Sir Hector, on the Staff in Scotland.

The Rev. Mr Alexander Grant, chaplain to the 91st regiment of foot, the degree of D. D. by the King's College, Aberdeen.

William M'Connell, Esq; to be sheriff-substitute of the county of Wigton.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Dec. 30. William Morison, writer and builder in Edinburgh.

— James Burns and Son, merchants in St Andrews, as a company, and as individuals.

— Andrew Henderson, merchant or haberdasher, Leith.

Jan. 9. Alex. Bennet, wright and builder in Leith.

13. Thomas Gordon, distiller at Spynie, in the county of Murray.

20. William Colquhoun, linen manufacturer in Edinburgh.

21. Malcolm Macintyre, dealer in cattle, at Rosgole, Argyleshire.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, Jan. 30.

Wheat, 25s. 6d. Barley, 21s. 6d. Oats, 15s. d. Pease, 16s 6d. Beans, 16s.

Edinburgh, Jan. 30. Oat-meal, 1s. 1d. Bear-meal, 10½d. Pease-meal, 9d.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

	Jan. 7.	Jan. 29.
Bank Stock	155	153
3 per cent. red.	64⅝	63⅞
3 per cent. conf.	64¼	63⅜
4 per cent. conf.	80½	79½
India Stock	*Shut*	182½
India Bonds	7s. 4s. pr.	6s. pr.
Lottery Tickets	21. 5s.	20l. 15.

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METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

CONTINUED FROM P. 2.

THE 1ſt and 2d days of May were tolerably warm, with little wind ſtirring. On the 3d ſnow fell in the afternoon on Fife hills, and thereafter on Pentland hills: And this day ſaw a few radiſhes ſelling, for the firſt time, in the Edinburgh markets.

On the 4th, in the morning, ſaw Pentland hills and Arthur's ſeat, &c. covered with ſnow; and ſnow fell all day, though it melted on the low grounds.

5th and 6th, ſnow ſhowers ſtill continue; and on the 6th, noticed new leaves on the young ſycamores at Portobello.

On the 7th, Pentland hills, and others, to the ſouthward, covered with ſnow, as in mid winter. From the 7th till the 10th, froſty nights; but more ſunſhine through the day, ſo ſomewhat warmer; the wind however ſtill at N. E.

On the 10th, wind changed to S. S. E; and brought more moderate weather, which continued till the 14th, though we had ſome ſhowers of rain on the 12th. Spots of ſnow ſtill upon the Tweeddale hills: and ſome little ſnow on Pentland.

14th, Wind ſhifts to N. E. and cold and wet as formerly; and on the 15th heard the cuckoo, and rail, for the firſt time. Wind at N. E. and a thick cloſe fog.

16th, Obſerved that the clipped thorn hedges were about one fourth leaved; and the unclipped ones about one fifth.

19th, Foggy weather. Wind ſince the 15th at N. E. See no ſnow on Pentland; but the north and diſtant ſouth hills ſtill very much covered. From the the 15th till the 20th the weather however was pretty moderate.

29th, Wind eaſterly; very foggy and dripping all day; and at night a very heavy rain from the S. S. W. And on the 30th, heavy rain all day. The grounds and roads about Edinburgh all afloat; and much miſchief done to bridges, mills, &c. in the neighbourhood: and what is very ſingular, the Glaſgow-fly that went off in the morning, was obliged to return again, owing to the extraordinary floods on the highway, and ſwelling of the rivulets. An inſtance never before known.

June 1ſt and 2d, cold N. W. winds; and ſpots of ſnow ſtill on the Tweeddale hills. 3d and 4th; The weather moderate; but ſnow ſtill viſible from Edinburgh.

From the 4th till the 18th, cold and wet with wind at N. and E.; and many people wearing big coats as in winter.

On the 18th, about mid-day, after a thunder ſtorm, occaſioned apparently by a contrary wind, as at this time, it ſuddenly veered about from the eaſt to the weſt, the weather became conſiderably warmer.

On the 22d, ſaw ſome Aſh trees in the meadows ſtill deſtitute of leaves, having only a few green buds. The warm weather, however, ſtill continues; and on the 24th and 25th it was extremely warm; wind at S. W.

26th, cold again, with the wind at N. W. Was told that a ſingle peck of peas was brought this day to market, being all that were as yet ready.

July was, in general, cold for the ſeaſon.

Auguſt was alſo cold and very wet; and no dog-day heats perceivable. On the 23d we had a very high wind all night, at S. E. and ſome trees were blown down at Reſtalrig. And on the 29th, ſaw the earlieſt wheat cutting down, being only the riper parts of a ſmall field in the Abbayhill. Great damage was done by the rains and floods to bridges, &c. in the north of Scotland, during this month.

(*To be Continued.*)

THE SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For FEBRUARY 1795.

CHARACTERISTICAL SKETCHES OF EMINENT BRITONS.

AS the Navy of Great Britain is the natural defence of the country, we cannot too often nor too warmly celebrate thoſe heroes, whoſe actions ſupport the fame of the nation, and at the ſame time inſure the ſecurity of it. The preſent time has afforded an opportunity for many perſons to diſtinguiſh themſelves by acts equally honourable to their bravery and generoſity, and none perhaps in a greater degree than the gentlemen who are the ſubject of this memoir.

SIR WILLIAM SYDNEY SMITH.

AMONG thoſe who have ſignalized themſelves during the preſent war, Sir S. Smith deſerves a particular eulogium. He was born about the year 1764. His father was John Smith, Eſq; Aid-de-Camp to Lord George Germaine, and his mother was Mary Wilkinſon, daughter of Pikney Wilkinſon, an opulent merchant, who had another daughter, married to the late Lord Cameiford. The union between Sir Sydney's father and mother, which took place in 1760, being without the conſent of Mr Wilkinſon the grandfather, the great property left by that Gentlemen went to Lady Cameiford. Previous to the old gentleman's death, the diſagreement between him and Sir Sydney's father had ariſen to ſuch a height, that on the care of his grandſon's being taken from him, he cancelled a codicil to his will by which he had made ſome proviſion for them. The firſt part of Sir Sydney's education was at Tunbridge School, then kept by Mr Knox deceaſed, where he continued until 1773, from whence he was removed to Bath, under the care of Mr Morgan; and in the year 1777 he devoted himſelf to the ſea ſervice, under Captain Young, of the Sandwich. In the year 1780 he was appointed Fifth Lieutenant of the Alcide, and in 1783 became a Poſt Captain. The war in which Great Britain had been involved being at an end, Captain Smith obtained leave to go into the Swediſh ſervice about 1788, and ſignalized himſelf in ſo extraordinary a manner, that he was inveſted with the Swediſh Order of Knighthood, which not being admitted in England, his name in the Liſts of Naval Officers appears without that diſtinction.

The war between the Swedes and the Ruſſians being concluded, Sir Sydney again returned to England, and on the commencement of hoſtilities between Great Britain and the uſurping Powers of France, he was, as might naturally be expected from his former gallantry, employed in the ſervice of his country. In the beginning of December laſt he joined Lord Hood from Smyrna at Toulon, and offered his ſervice to burn the ſhips and deſtroy the arſenal, on the evacuation of that place. How effectually this was executed our readers are already acquainted from the diſpatches printed in our laſt Volume, p. 51.

Sir S. Smith is ſtill active on the ſea, in the ſervice of his country, and we anticipate the honours he will acquire ſhould the enemy afford him an opportunity. At an early period of life he has acquired laurels which will not fade, and he poſſeſſes thoſe qualities which are likely to procure ſucceſs, cool reſolution and undaunted courage. May Great Britain at all times ſee a ſucceſſion of ſuch men! While ſuch are to be found in her ſervice, ſhe may contemn the impotent

potent menaces of her foreign enemies, and the equally impotent efforts of her ſeditious lurking domeſtic foes.

SIR JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

SIR JOHN is of an antient and reſpectable family, of Little Marlow in Buckinghamſhire, and he himſelf had the honour to be created a Baronet on the 20th of May 1775.

The education of Sir John has been more liberal than uſually falls to the ſhare of the gentlemen of the Navy. He reſided ſome years at Cambridge, where he was entered of Emmanuel College. In the year 1776 we find him taking the the degree of Maſter of Arts; and ſoon after he quitted the Univerſity, intending to purſue that profeſſion, of which he is at preſent one of the ornaments. On the 19th July 1778, he was appointed a Lieutenant, and on the 5th of Auguſt 1779, was advanced to be a Maſter and Commander; from which ſtation, on the 25th of April 1781, he was further promoted to the rank of a Captain. Peace ſoon after took place, and deprived Sir John, with many other brave officers, of the opportunity of ſignalizing themſelves; but in this interval he did not loſe ſight of his profeſſion. We have reaſon to believe, that in 1791 he publiſhed a very uſeful book, intitled, 'A View of the Naval Force of Great Britain: In which its preſent State, Growth, and converſion of Timber; Conſtructions of Ships, Docks, and Harbours; Regulations of Officers and Men in each Department, are conſidered and compared with other European Powers. To which are added, 'obſervations and hints for the improvement of the Naval Service.' 8vo. and we know that he took an active part in the eſtabliſhment of the Society for improving Naval Architecture.

The aggreſſion of the French having compelled the Britiſh Nation to repell an unprovoked attack, the wiſdom of the Government brought from their retreats the gallant heroes who have already eſtabliſhed the glory of Great Britain on the ſeas, and thoſe who are deſtined to confirm it by their exploits. Among theſe was Sir John Borlaſe Warren, who was appointed to command the Flora.

During the months of November, December, and January laſt 1794, it was known that the French had five frigates at Cherburg, ready to join the Breſt ſquadron, with a view to obſtruct our outward and home-bound fleets. The Flora proceeded with the Earl of Moira, and ſeveral French and Engliſh Officers, the tranſports and army, upon the expedition to join the Royaliſts of La Vendee, who had penetrated, after various hard contested battles, as far as Dole, Pontorſon, and Grenville; but on the retreat of theſe brave and unfortunate men, the ſquadron, tranſports, &c. returned to Cowes Road.

Our readers will find a brilliant ſpecimen of this officer's conduct in our vol. for 1794, p. 564.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF LINNÆUS.

LINNÆUS was the ſon of a peaſant-born village paſtor, who brought up a family in the narrow condition attending that ſtation in the north of Europe. The fondneſs of young Linné for plants, which ſhewed itſelf at ſo early an age as to appear almoſt inſtinctive, may readily be derived from the father's taſte for horticulture, and for the collection of wild flowers from the woods and fields around his little manſion. The youth was deſtined for the church: but an impatience of confinement to ſtudies which he did not reliſh, and the inſuperable attachment to Flora which poſſeſſed his mind, fruſtrated the intentions of his parents. When, in diſpleaſure and diſpair, they were about to bind him apprentice to a *ſhoemaker*, he was reſcued by a phyſician of the neighbouring town, named Rothmane: who, diſcovering in him the latent fire of genius, took him into his houſe as a pupil, and probably as an uſeful domeſtic, initiated him in medicine, and decided his fate by putting into his hand *Tournefort's Elements of Botany*.

In the 21ſt year of his age he went to the univerſity of Lund. In this place he

he had the good fortune to ingratiate himſelf with Stobæus, profeſſor of phyſic and botany, who took him gratuitouſly into his family, and gave him acceſs to his muſeum and library. A pleaſing anecdote is related of him during his reſidence in this houſe:—As he was of a ſocial convivial turn, and was known to ſit up late at night, the profeſſor ſuſpected that his vigils paſſed in cards or romps with the ſervants. He therefore came ſuddenly into the young man's apartment at a late hour; when, inſtead of amuſements of that kind, he found him entrenched amid the works of Tournefort, Bauhin, Cæſalpinus, and other great botaniſts. This diſcovery, as might be ſuppoſed, rendered him a greater favourite with the profeſſor than before.

The univerſity of Upſal, however, the chief ſeat of the Swediſh Muſes, was the chief object of his longing; and, notwithſtanding the pecuniary difficulties which ſtood in his way, he accompliſhed his journey thither in the next year. The medical profeſſors there, at that period (1728) were Olaus Rudbeck, jun. and Roberg, both old men, and little inclined to improvement:—but Olaus Celſius, the profeſſor of divinity, was the beſt botaniſt in Sweden, and zealous for the ſcience. He was abſent for ſome time after the arrival of Linné; and the poor youth, unknown and unpatronized, fell into a lamentable ſtate of indigence. He was glad to accept of a meal, and to wear the caſt cloaths of his fellow ſtudents; nay he even was forced to patch their old ſhoes with cords and the bark of trees, in order to be able to make his botanical excurſions. The mind, which poſſeſſes energy and reſolution enough to riſe above ſuch difficulties as theſe, is of the very firſt claſs, and may claim praiſe, to which thoſe who nurſed in the lap of eaſe and proſperity can never eſtabliſh an equal right. On the return of Celſius, fortune proved more favourable: Linné made himſelf known to him, engaged his eſteem, and obtained free board and lodging in his houſe; which he in ſome meaſure repaid, by his ſervices in aſſiſting the profeſſor in compoſing his *Hierobotanicon.*

About this time, a ſmall work of Vaillant, a very ingenious French botaniſt, (his *Sermo de Structura Florum,*) falling into the hands of Linné afforded him the firſt notions of thoſe ſexual diſtinctions of flowers, which afterward became the ground-work of his celebrated *ſyſtem.* Attracted by theſe new views of the vegetable creation, he purſued the ſubject with many additional obſervations, and drew up a manuſcript treatiſe on the ſexes of plants. This attempt came to the knowledge of Profeſſor Rudbeck, and gave him ſuch an opinion of the writer, that he took Linné into his houſe, and appointed him his aſſiſtant lecturer. This was in 1730, when Linné had completed his 23d year. Thus the path to fame and advancement was laid open to him, and the whole remainder of his life conſiſted in a continual and rapid progreſs through it.

He was, ſoon after, appointed by the Swediſh Academy of Sciences to make a journey of diſcovery in Lapland. Such was the poverty of Sweden, that the ſum devoted to this purpoſe amounted only to 7*l.* 10*s.* ſterling! He undertook this long and moſt uncomfortable expedition with all the ardour of an enthuſiaſt; and, during the courſe of it, (from May to the end of October,) he underwent dangers and difficulties which, accuſtomed as he was to hardſhips, exerciſed all his patience and reſolution:—but he returned rich in many undeſcribed objects of nature, and in obſervations on the country and its inhabitants. His diary, kept on this tour, remains in MS. but the botanical matter was publiſhed in two parts of *Florula Lapponica*, inſerted in the Swediſh Tranſactions. The plants in this catalogue were arranged according to his newly projected ſexual ſyſtem.

Having now acquired ſome celebrity, he began, in the year 1733, to give lectures on botany, chemiſtry, and mineralogy, at Upſal; which were well received. The ſpirit of envy and rivalry, however, inſtigated Profeſſor Roſen to enforce a ſtatute of the Univerſity, which excluded every one, who had not taken his degrees, from the office of a public lec-

lecturer. Stung to the quick with this ungenerous treatment, which blafted all his profpects, Linné was provoked to fhew his refentment in a very unwarrantable manner. He drew his fword on Rofen as he came out of the fenate-houfe, and was with difficulty prevented from running him through the body: nay, he for fometime continued to meditate a bloody revenge, and would probably have executed it, had he not, as he himfelf related, been diverted from the defign by the impreffion which his mind received one night on waking from a horrid dream. From this anecdote, an idea may be formed of the fiery and refentful temper which, through life, too much characterifed the hero of this narrative.

A journey to Dalecarlia, with fome young nobles his pupils, was the occafion of his tarrying at the mining town of Fahlun, where he eftablifhed a kind of college of mineralogy under the auſpices of the governor of the province. Here he became acquainted with the daughter of Moræus, a man of eminence, and phyfician to the province, and with difficulty obtained the father's conſent to marry her in three years, if fhe fhould remain fingle till that period. His great object was now to gain a doctor's degree and to fettle in the practice of phyfic. By the help of his intended bride, he was equipped for a journey to Hardenwyk in Holland, where he meant to graduate.

He took his courfe by Hamburgh to Hardenwyk; at which univerſity he obtained the degree of doctor of phyfic. For his academical exercife he defended a new hypotheſis concerning the cauſes of intermitting fevers; one of the principal of which he aſſerted to be the uſe of water impregnated with argillaceous particles. This theſis bears the date of June 24, 1735, when he was in his 28th year. Leyden was the next place which he viſited; where his great object was to obtain an introduction to Boerhaave. This was no eaſy matter, as that celebrated man ſet too high a value on his time to be liberal of it in conferences with ſtrangers:—but the proſpectus of his *Syſtema Naturæ*, which Linné printed for the firſt time at Leyden, and preſented to Boerhaave, obtained for him the honour which he ſolicited. The great man appointed him an interview at his villa; which ſucceeded ſo well for Linné, that the old profeſſor adviſed him to give up all thoughts of returning home, and to ſeek his fortune in Holland. Linné pleaded his diſability, on account of indigence, and mentioned his deſign of leaving Leyden the very next day. We are not told that Boerhaave (one of the richeſt men in his country,) made any effort to detain him. He gave him, however, a letter to Burmann, botanical profeſſor at Amſterdam, which ſecured him a good reception there; and Burmann conceived ſo high an opinion of the Swede, that he took him into his houſe for the purpoſe of obtaining his help in his deſcription of the plants of Ceylon. Boerhaave farther ſerved Linné very eſſentially, by recommending him to George Clifford, the rich Burgomaſter and great collector of Amſterdam, as his houſe phyſician and botaniſt. Clifford, accordingly made an exchange with Burmann of a copy of Sloane's Hiſtory of Jamaica againſt the naturaliſt; and he took Linné home with him to Hartecamp, his villa, and at once raiſed him to a ſtate of affluence ſcarcely conceivable by a poor Swede, for he had an appointment of a ducat a day, excluſively of boarding.

The reſidence in a paradiſe fraught with treaſures from all parts of the globe, together with books, learned company, and good living, muſt have made Linné the happieſt of mortals. He ſtudied, wrote, and extended his fame and principles. An agreeable variation of his employments was a journey to England in 1736, at Clifford's expence, for the purpoſe of enriching his garden. Sir Hans Sloane was at that time at the head of natural hiſtory in this country: but a warm recommendation of Linné to him, from Boerhaave, procured only a cold and common reception. Linné viſited Miller at the Chelſea-garden, and, after ſome unpromiſing attempts, ſucceeded in inſpiring that botaniſt with a favourable opinion of him. A man of ſuperior knowledge, Dillenius, at Oxford received him at firſt with jealouſy and diſlike, but at laſt treated him with civility.

The